



29 | plan, and required corrective actions; amending s.  
 30 | 1002.69, F.S.; providing duties of the office relating  
 31 | to statewide kindergarten screening, kindergarten  
 32 | readiness rates, and good cause exemptions for  
 33 | providers; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; revising  
 34 | provisions relating to payment of funds to providers;  
 35 | amending s. 1002.72, F.S.; providing for the release  
 36 | of Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program student  
 37 | records for the purpose of investigations; amending s.  
 38 | 1002.75, F.S.; revising duties of the office for  
 39 | administering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 40 | Program; amending s. 1002.77, F.S.; revising  
 41 | provisions relating to the Florida Early Learning  
 42 | Advisory Council; amending s. 1002.79, F.S.; deleting  
 43 | certain State Board of Education rulemaking authority  
 44 | for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program;  
 45 | creating part VI of ch. 1002, F.S., consisting of ss.  
 46 | 1002.81-1002.98, relating to school readiness  
 47 | programs; providing definitions; providing powers and  
 48 | duties of the Office of Early Learning; providing for  
 49 | early learning coalitions; providing early learning  
 50 | coalition powers and duties for the school readiness  
 51 | program; providing requirements for early learning  
 52 | coalition plans; providing school readiness program  
 53 | student eligibility and enrollment requirements;  
 54 | providing school readiness provider standards and  
 55 | eligibility to deliver the school readiness program;  
 56 | providing school readiness program funding; providing

57 a market rate schedule; providing for investigation of  
 58 fraud or overpayment and penalties therefor; providing  
 59 for child care and early childhood resource and  
 60 referral; providing for school readiness  
 61 transportation services; providing for the Child Care  
 62 Executive Partnership Program; providing for the  
 63 Teacher Education and Compensation Helps scholarship  
 64 program; providing for Early Head Start collaboration  
 65 grants; providing requirements relating to infants and  
 66 toddlers in state-funded education and care programs;  
 67 providing for the confidentiality of records of  
 68 children in school readiness programs; amending s.  
 69 11.45, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s.  
 70 20.15, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending s.  
 71 196.198, F.S.; revising provisions relating to  
 72 educational property tax exemption; amending s.  
 73 216.136, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending  
 74 s. 402.281, F.S.; revising requirements relating to  
 75 receipt of a Gold Seal Quality Care designation;  
 76 amending s. 402.302, F.S.; conforming a cross-  
 77 reference; amending s. 402.305, F.S.; providing that  
 78 certain child care after-school programs may provide  
 79 meals through a federal program; amending ss. 445.023,  
 80 490.014, and 491.014, F.S.; conforming cross-  
 81 references; amending s. 1001.11, F.S.; providing a  
 82 duty of the Commissioner of Education relating to  
 83 early learning programs; repealing s. 411.01, F.S.,  
 84 relating to school readiness programs and early

85 | learning coalitions; repealing s. 411.0101, F.S.,  
 86 | relating to child care and early childhood resource  
 87 | and referral; repealing s. 411.01013, F.S., relating  
 88 | to the prevailing market rate schedule; repealing s.  
 89 | 411.01014, F.S., relating to school readiness  
 90 | transportation services; repealing s. 411.01015, F.S.,  
 91 | relating to consultation to child care centers and  
 92 | family day care homes; repealing s. 411.0102, F.S.,  
 93 | relating to the Child Care Executive Partnership Act;  
 94 | repealing s. 411.0103, F.S., relating to the Teacher  
 95 | Education and Compensation Helps scholarship program;  
 96 | repealing s. 411.0104, relating to Early Head Start  
 97 | collaboration grants; repealing s. 411.0105, F.S.,  
 98 | relating to the Early Learning Opportunities Act and  
 99 | Even Start Family Literacy Programs; repealing s.  
 100 | 411.0106, F.S., relating to infants and toddlers in  
 101 | state-funded education and care programs; repealing s.  
 102 | 411.011, F.S., relating to records of children in  
 103 | school readiness programs; authorizing specified  
 104 | positions for the Office of Early Learning; requiring  
 105 | the office to develop a reorganization plan for the  
 106 | office and submit a report to the Governor and the  
 107 | Legislature; providing an effective date.

108 |  
 109 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

110 |  
 111 | Section 1. Section 1001.213, Florida Statutes, is created  
 112 | to read:

113 1001.213 Office of Early Learning.—There is created in the  
 114 Department of Education the Office of Early Learning which shall  
 115 be administered by an executive director. The office shall be  
 116 fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education and shall:

117 (1) Exercise independently all powers, duties, and  
 118 functions prescribed by law and shall not be construed as part  
 119 of the K-20 education system.

120 (2) Adopt rules for the establishment and operation of  
 121 school readiness programs and the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 122 Education Program. The office shall submit the rules to the  
 123 State Board of Education for approval or disapproval. If the  
 124 state board does not act on a rule within 60 days after  
 125 receiving it, the rule shall be filed immediately with the  
 126 Department of State.

127 (3) Administer the school readiness program at the state  
 128 level for the state's eligible population described in s.  
 129 1002.87 and provide guidance to early learning coalitions in the  
 130 implementation of the program. The education component of the  
 131 school readiness program should be developmentally appropriate  
 132 and based on research, involve the parent as the child's first  
 133 teacher, serve as a preventive measure for children at risk of  
 134 future school failure, and enhance the educational readiness of  
 135 eligible children. The school readiness program should be of  
 136 assistance to parents in preparing their at-risk children for  
 137 educational success, including, as appropriate, health screening  
 138 and referral.

139 (4) Administer the requirements of the Voluntary  
 140 Prekindergarten Education Program at the state level.

141 (5) Administer the operational requirements of the child  
 142 care resource and referral network at the state level.

143 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 1002.51, Florida  
 144 Statutes, is amended to read:

145 1002.51 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

146 (4) "Early learning coalition" or "coalition" means an  
 147 early learning coalition created under s. 1002.83 ~~411.01~~.

148 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) and paragraph  
 149 (b) of subsection (6) of section 1002.53, Florida Statutes, is  
 150 amended to read:

151 1002.53 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program;  
 152 eligibility and enrollment.—

153 (4) (a) Each parent enrolling a child in the Voluntary  
 154 Prekindergarten Education Program must complete and submit an  
 155 application to the early learning coalition through the single  
 156 point of entry established under s. 1002.82 ~~411.01~~.

157 (6) (b) A parent may enroll his or her child with any  
 158 public school within the school district which is eligible to  
 159 deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program under  
 160 this part, subject to available space. Each school district may  
 161 limit the number of students admitted by any public school for  
 162 enrollment in the school-year program; however, the school  
 163 district must provide for the admission of every eligible child  
 164 within the district whose parent enrolls the child in a summer  
 165 prekindergarten program delivered by a public school under s.  
 166 1002.61.

167 Section 4. Paragraphs (c) and (g) of subsection (3) of  
 168 section 1002.55, Florida Statutes, are amended, paragraph (i) is

169 redesignated as paragraph (k), and new paragraphs (i) and (j)  
 170 are added to that subsection, to read:

171 1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by  
 172 private prekindergarten providers.—

173 (3) To be eligible to deliver the prekindergarten program,  
 174 a private prekindergarten provider must meet each of the  
 175 following requirements:

176 (c) The private prekindergarten provider must have, for  
 177 each prekindergarten class of 11 children or fewer, at least one  
 178 prekindergarten instructor who meets each of the following  
 179 requirements:

180 1. The prekindergarten instructor must hold, at a minimum,  
 181 one of the following credentials:

182 a. A child development associate credential issued by the  
 183 National Credentialing Program of the Council for Professional  
 184 Recognition; or

185 b. A credential approved by the Department of Children and  
 186 Families ~~Family Services~~ as being equivalent to or greater than  
 187 the credential described in sub-subparagraph a.

188  
 189 The Department of Children and Families ~~Family Services~~ may  
 190 adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which provide  
 191 criteria and procedures for approving equivalent credentials  
 192 under sub-subparagraph b.

193 2. The prekindergarten instructor must successfully  
 194 complete an emergent literacy training course and a training  
 195 course on the student performance standards approved by the  
 196 office ~~department~~ as meeting or exceeding the minimum standards

197 adopted under s. 1002.59. The requirement for completion of the  
 198 standards course shall take effect July 1, 2014, and the course  
 199 shall be available online. ~~This subparagraph does not apply to a~~  
 200 ~~prekindergarten instructor who successfully completes approved~~  
 201 ~~training in early literacy and language development under s.~~  
 202 ~~402.305(2)(d)5., s. 402.313(6), or s. 402.3131(5) before the~~  
 203 ~~establishment of one or more emergent literacy training courses~~  
 204 ~~under s. 1002.59 or April 1, 2005, whichever occurs later.~~

205 (g) ~~Before the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year,~~ The  
 206 private prekindergarten provider must have a prekindergarten  
 207 director who has a prekindergarten director credential that is  
 208 approved by the office ~~department~~ as meeting or exceeding the  
 209 minimum standards adopted under s. 1002.57. Successful  
 210 completion of a child care facility director credential under s.  
 211 402.305(2)(f) before the establishment of the prekindergarten  
 212 director credential under s. 1002.57 or July 1, 2006, whichever  
 213 occurs later, satisfies the requirement for a prekindergarten  
 214 director credential under this paragraph.

215 (i) The private prekindergarten provider must execute the  
 216 statewide provider contract prescribed under s. 1002.75, except  
 217 that an individual who owns or operates multiple private  
 218 prekindergarten providers within a coalition's service area may  
 219 execute a single agreement with the coalition on behalf of each  
 220 provider.

221 (j) The private prekindergarten provider must maintain  
 222 liability insurance coverage and the necessary business  
 223 requirements to legally operate a business in the state,  
 224 including any required worker's compensation insurance under

225 | chapter 440 and unemployment compensation insurance under  
 226 | chapter 443.

227 | Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1002.57, Florida  
 228 | Statutes, is amended to read:

229 | 1002.57 Prekindergarten director credential.—

230 | (1) ~~By July 1, 2006,~~ The office, in consultation with the  
 231 | Department of Children and Families, department shall adopt  
 232 | minimum standards for a credential for prekindergarten directors  
 233 | of private prekindergarten providers delivering the Voluntary  
 234 | Prekindergarten Education Program. The credential must encompass  
 235 | requirements for education and onsite experience.

236 | Section 6. Section 1002.59, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 237 | to read:

238 | 1002.59 Emergent literacy and performance standards  
 239 | training courses.—

240 | (1) ~~By April 1, 2005,~~ The office ~~department~~ shall adopt  
 241 | minimum standards for one or more training courses in emergent  
 242 | literacy for prekindergarten instructors. Each course must  
 243 | comprise 5 clock hours and provide instruction in strategies and  
 244 | techniques to address the age-appropriate progress of  
 245 | prekindergarten students in developing emergent literacy skills,  
 246 | including oral communication, knowledge of print and letters,  
 247 | phonemic and phonological awareness, and vocabulary and  
 248 | comprehension development. Each course must also provide  
 249 | resources containing strategies that allow students with  
 250 | disabilities and other special needs to derive maximum benefit  
 251 | from the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. Successful  
 252 | completion of an emergent literacy training course approved

253 | under this section satisfies requirements for approved training  
 254 | in early literacy and language development under ss.  
 255 | 402.305(2)(d)5., 402.313(6), and 402.3131(5).

256 |       (2) The office shall adopt minimum standards for one or  
 257 | more training courses on the student performance standards  
 258 | adopted under s. 1002.67(1). Each course must comprise at least  
 259 | 3 clock hours, provide instruction in strategies and techniques  
 260 | to address age-appropriate progress of each child in attaining  
 261 | the standards, and be available online.

262 |       Section 7. Subsections (3), (4), and (8) of section  
 263 | 1002.61, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

264 |       1002.61 Summer prekindergarten program delivered by public  
 265 | schools and private prekindergarten providers.—

266 |       (3)(a) Each district school board shall determine which  
 267 | public schools in the school district are eligible to deliver  
 268 | the summer prekindergarten program. The school district shall  
 269 | use educational facilities available in the public schools  
 270 | during the summer term for the summer prekindergarten program.

271 |       (b) Each public school delivering the summer  
 272 | prekindergarten program must execute the statewide provider  
 273 | contract prescribed under s. 1002.75, except that the school  
 274 | district may execute a single agreement with the early learning  
 275 | coalition on behalf of all district schools.

276 |       (c) ~~(b)~~ Except as provided in this section, to be eligible  
 277 | to deliver the summer prekindergarten program, a private  
 278 | prekindergarten provider must meet each requirement in s.  
 279 | 1002.55.

280 |       (4) Notwithstanding ss. 1002.55(3)(c)1. and 1002.63(4),

281 each public school and private prekindergarten provider must  
 282 have, for each prekindergarten class, at least one  
 283 prekindergarten instructor who~~+~~  
 284 ~~(a)~~ is a certified teacher~~+~~ or  
 285 ~~(b)~~ holds one of the educational credentials specified in  
 286 s. 1002.55(4) (a) or (b). As used in this subsection, the term  
 287 "certified teacher" means a teacher holding a valid Florida  
 288 educator certificate under s. 1012.56 who has the qualifications  
 289 required by the district school board to instruct students in  
 290 the summer prekindergarten program. In selecting instructional  
 291 staff for the summer prekindergarten program, each school  
 292 district shall give priority to teachers who have experience or  
 293 coursework in early childhood education.

294 (8) Each public school delivering the summer  
 295 prekindergarten program must also~~+~~

296 ~~(a)~~ register with the early learning coalition on forms  
 297 prescribed by the Office of Early Learning~~+~~ and

298 ~~(b)~~ deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 299 Program in accordance with this part.

300 Section 8. Subsections (3) and (8) of section 1002.63,  
 301 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

302 1002.63 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by  
 303 public schools.—

304 (3) (a) The district school board of each school district  
 305 shall determine which public schools in the district may deliver  
 306 the prekindergarten program during the school year.

307 (b) Each public school delivering the school-year  
 308 prekindergarten program must execute the statewide provider

309 contract prescribed under s. 1002.75, except that the school  
 310 district may execute a single agreement with the early learning  
 311 coalition on behalf of all district schools.

312 (8) Each public school delivering the school-year  
 313 prekindergarten program must:

314 ~~(a)~~ register with the early learning coalition on forms  
 315 prescribed by the Office of Early Learning~~r~~ and

316 ~~(b)~~ deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 317 Program in accordance with this part.

318 Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 1002.66, Florida  
 319 Statutes, is amended to read:

320 1002.66 Specialized instructional services for children  
 321 with disabilities.—

322 (1) ~~Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year,~~ A child who  
 323 has a disability and enrolls with the early learning coalition  
 324 under s. 1002.53(3)(d) is eligible for specialized instructional  
 325 services if:

326 (a) The child is eligible for the Voluntary  
 327 Prekindergarten Education Program under s. 1002.53; and

328 (b) A current individual educational plan has been  
 329 developed for the child by the local school board in accordance  
 330 with rules of the State Board of Education.

331 Section 10. Subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection  
 332 (2), and subsection (4) of section 1002.67, Florida Statutes,  
 333 are amended to read:

334 1002.67 Performance standards; curricula and  
 335 accountability.—

336 (1)(a) The office ~~department~~ shall develop and adopt

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337 performance standards for students in the Voluntary  
338 Prekindergarten Education Program. The performance standards  
339 must address the age-appropriate progress of students in the  
340 development of:

341 1. The capabilities, capacities, and skills required under  
342 s. 1(b), Art. IX of the State Constitution; and

343 2. Emergent literacy skills, including oral communication,  
344 knowledge of print and letters, phonemic and phonological  
345 awareness, and vocabulary and comprehension development.

346

347 By October 1, 2013, the office shall examine the existing  
348 student performance standards in the area of mathematical  
349 thinking and develop a plan to make appropriate professional  
350 development and training courses available to Voluntary  
351 Prekindergarten Education Program instructors.

352 (b) The office ~~State Board of Education~~ shall periodically  
353 review and revise the performance standards for the statewide  
354 kindergarten screening administered under s. 1002.69 and align  
355 the standards to the standards established by the state board  
356 for student performance on the statewide assessments  
357 administered pursuant to s. 1008.22.

358 (2)

359 (c) The office ~~department~~ shall review and approve  
360 curricula for use by private prekindergarten providers and  
361 public schools that are placed on probation under paragraph  
362 (4)(c). The office ~~department~~ shall maintain a list of the  
363 curricula approved under this paragraph. Each approved  
364 curriculum must meet the requirements of paragraph (b).

365 (4) (a) Each early learning coalition shall verify that  
 366 each private prekindergarten provider delivering the Voluntary  
 367 Prekindergarten Education Program within the coalition's county  
 368 or multicounty region complies with this part. Each district  
 369 school board shall verify that each public school delivering the  
 370 program within the school district complies with this part.

371 (b) If a private prekindergarten provider or public school  
 372 fails or refuses to comply with this part, or if a provider or  
 373 school engages in misconduct, the office ~~of Early Learning~~ shall  
 374 require the early learning coalition to remove the provider, and  
 375 ~~the Department of Education shall~~ require the school district to  
 376 remove the school from eligibility to deliver the Voluntary  
 377 Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state funds under  
 378 this part for a period of 5 years.

379 (c)1. If the kindergarten readiness rate of a private  
 380 prekindergarten provider or public school falls below the  
 381 minimum rate adopted by the office ~~State Board of Education~~ as  
 382 satisfactory under s. 1002.69(6), the early learning coalition  
 383 or school district, as applicable, shall require the provider or  
 384 school to submit an improvement plan for approval by the  
 385 coalition or school district, as applicable, and to implement  
 386 the plan;

387 ~~2. If a private prekindergarten provider or public school~~  
 388 ~~fails to meet the minimum rate adopted by the State Board of~~  
 389 ~~Education as satisfactory under s. 1002.69(6), the early~~  
 390 ~~learning coalition or school district, as applicable, shall~~  
 391 place the provider or school on probation; and shall ~~must~~  
 392 require the provider or school to take certain corrective

393 actions, including the use of a curriculum approved by the  
 394 office ~~department~~ under paragraph (2)(c) or a staff development  
 395 plan to strengthen instruction in language development and  
 396 phonological awareness approved by the office ~~department~~.

397 2.3- A private prekindergarten provider or public school  
 398 that is placed on probation must continue the corrective actions  
 399 required under subparagraph 1. 2-, including the use of a  
 400 curriculum or a staff development plan to strengthen instruction  
 401 in language development and phonological awareness approved by  
 402 the office ~~department~~, until the provider or school meets the  
 403 minimum rate adopted by the State Board of Education as  
 404 satisfactory under s. 1002.69(6). Failure to implement an  
 405 approved improvement plan or staff development plan shall result  
 406 in the termination of the provider's contract to deliver the  
 407 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for a period of 5  
 408 years.

409 3.4- If a private prekindergarten provider or public  
 410 school remains on probation for 2 consecutive years and fails to  
 411 meet the minimum rate adopted by the office ~~State Board of~~  
 412 ~~Education~~ as satisfactory under s. 1002.69(6) and is not granted  
 413 a good cause exemption by the office ~~department~~ pursuant to s.  
 414 1002.69(7), the office ~~of Early Learning~~ shall require the early  
 415 learning coalition or ~~the Department of Education~~ shall require  
 416 the school district to remove, as applicable, the provider or  
 417 school from eligibility to deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 418 Education Program and receive state funds for the program for a  
 419 period of 5 years.

420 (d) Each early learning coalition and ~~the office of Early~~

421 ~~Learning, and the department~~ shall coordinate with the Child  
 422 Care Regulation Services Program Office of the Department of  
 423 Children and Families ~~Family Services~~ to minimize interagency  
 424 duplication of activities for monitoring private prekindergarten  
 425 providers for compliance with requirements of the Voluntary  
 426 Prekindergarten Education Program under this part, the school  
 427 readiness programs under part VI of this chapter s. 411.01, and  
 428 the licensing of providers under ss. 402.301-402.319.

429 Section 11. Subsections (2), (5), (6), and (7) of section  
 430 1002.69, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

431 1002.69 Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten  
 432 readiness rates; state-approved prekindergarten enrollment  
 433 screening; good cause exemption.—

434 (2) The statewide kindergarten screening shall provide  
 435 objective data concerning each student's readiness for  
 436 kindergarten and progress in attaining the performance standards  
 437 adopted by the office ~~department~~ under s. 1002.67(1).

438 (5) The office ~~State Board of Education~~ shall adopt  
 439 procedures ~~for the department~~ to annually calculate each private  
 440 prekindergarten provider's and public school's kindergarten  
 441 readiness rate, which must be expressed as the percentage of the  
 442 provider's or school's students who are assessed as ready for  
 443 kindergarten. The methodology for calculating each provider's  
 444 kindergarten readiness rate must include student learning gains  
 445 when available and the percentage of students who meet all state  
 446 readiness measures. The rates must not include students who are  
 447 not administered the statewide kindergarten screening. The state  
 448 board shall determine learning gains using a value-added measure

449 based on growth demonstrated by the results of the pre- and  
 450 post-assessment from at least 2 successive years of  
 451 administration of the pre- and post-assessment.

452 (6) The office ~~State Board of Education~~ shall periodically  
 453 adopt a minimum kindergarten readiness rate that, if achieved by  
 454 a private prekindergarten provider or public school, would  
 455 demonstrate the provider's or school's satisfactory delivery of  
 456 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

457 (7) (a) Notwithstanding s. 1002.67(4)(c)3. ~~1002.67(4)(e)4.~~,  
 458 the office ~~State Board of Education~~, upon the request of a  
 459 private prekindergarten provider or public school that remains  
 460 on probation for 2 consecutive years or more and subsequently  
 461 fails to meet the minimum rate adopted under subsection (6) and  
 462 for good cause shown, may grant to the provider or school an  
 463 exemption from being determined ineligible to deliver the  
 464 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state  
 465 funds for the program. Such exemption is valid for 1 year and,  
 466 upon the request of the private prekindergarten provider or  
 467 public school and for good cause shown, may be renewed.

468 (b) A private prekindergarten provider's or public  
 469 school's request for a good cause exemption, or renewal of such  
 470 an exemption, must be submitted to the office ~~state board~~ in the  
 471 manner and within the timeframes prescribed by the office ~~state~~  
 472 ~~board~~ and must include the following:

- 473 1. Submission of data by the private prekindergarten  
 474 provider or public school which documents the achievement and  
 475 progress of the children served as measured by the state-  
 476 approved prekindergarten enrollment screening and the

477 standardized postassessment approved by the office ~~department~~  
 478 pursuant to subparagraph (c)1.

479 2. Submission and review of data available from the  
 480 respective early learning coalition or district school board,  
 481 the Department of Children and Families ~~Family Services~~, local  
 482 licensing authority, or an accrediting association, as  
 483 applicable, relating to the private prekindergarten provider's  
 484 or public school's compliance with state and local health and  
 485 safety standards.

486 3. Submission and review of data available to the office  
 487 ~~department~~ on the performance of the children served and the  
 488 calculation of the private prekindergarten provider's or public  
 489 school's kindergarten readiness rate.

490 (c) The office ~~State Board of Education~~ shall adopt  
 491 criteria for granting good cause exemptions. Such criteria shall  
 492 include, but are not limited to:

493 1. Learning gains of children served in the Voluntary  
 494 Prekindergarten Education Program by the private prekindergarten  
 495 provider or public school.

496 2. Verification that local and state health and safety  
 497 requirements are met.

498 (d) A good cause exemption may not be granted to any  
 499 private prekindergarten provider that has any class I violations  
 500 or two or more class II violations within the 2 years preceding  
 501 the provider's or school's request for the exemption. For  
 502 purposes of this paragraph, class I and class II violations have  
 503 the same meaning as provided in s. 402.281(4).

504 (e) A private prekindergarten provider or public school

505 granted a good cause exemption shall continue to implement its  
 506 improvement plan and continue the corrective actions required  
 507 under s. 1002.67(4)(c)1. ~~1002.67(4)(c)2.~~, including the use of a  
 508 curriculum approved by the office ~~department~~, until the provider  
 509 or school meets the minimum rate adopted under subsection (6).

510 (f) ~~The State Board of Education shall notify the Office~~  
 511 ~~of Early Learning of any good cause exemption granted to a~~  
 512 ~~private prekindergarten provider under this subsection.~~ If a  
 513 good cause exemption is granted to a private prekindergarten  
 514 provider who remains on probation for 2 consecutive years, the  
 515 ~~office of Early Learning~~ shall notify the early learning  
 516 coalition of the good cause exemption and direct that the  
 517 coalition, notwithstanding s. 1002.67(4)(c)3. ~~1002.67(4)(c)4.~~,  
 518 not remove the provider from eligibility to deliver the  
 519 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or to receive state  
 520 funds for the program, if the provider meets all other  
 521 applicable requirements of this part.

522 Section 12. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) and  
 523 subsections (5) and (7) of section 1002.71, Florida Statutes,  
 524 are amended to read:

525 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.—

526 (3)

527 (d) For programs offered by school districts pursuant to  
 528 s. 1002.61 ~~and beginning with the 2009 summer program~~, each  
 529 district's funding shall be based on a student enrollment that  
 530 is evenly divisible by 12. If the result of dividing a  
 531 district's student enrollment by 12 is not a whole number, the  
 532 district's enrollment calculation shall be adjusted by adding

533 the minimum number of students to produce a student enrollment  
 534 calculation that is evenly divisible by 12.

535 (5) (a) Each early learning coalition shall maintain  
 536 through the single point of entry established under s. 1002.82  
 537 ~~411.01~~ a current database of the students enrolled in the  
 538 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for each county  
 539 within the coalition's region.

540 (b) The Office of Early Learning shall adopt procedures  
 541 for the payment of private prekindergarten providers and public  
 542 schools delivering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 543 Program. The procedures shall provide for the advance payment of  
 544 providers and schools based upon student enrollment in the  
 545 program, the certification of student attendance, and the  
 546 reconciliation of advance payments in accordance with the  
 547 uniform attendance policy adopted under paragraph (6) (d). The  
 548 procedures shall provide for the monthly distribution of funds  
 549 by the Office of Early Learning to the early learning coalitions  
 550 for payment by the coalitions to private prekindergarten  
 551 providers and public schools. ~~The department shall transfer to~~  
 552 ~~the Office of Early Learning at least once each quarter the~~  
 553 ~~funds available for payment to private prekindergarten providers~~  
 554 ~~and public schools in accordance with this paragraph from the~~  
 555 ~~funds appropriated for that purpose.~~

556 (7) The Office of Early Learning shall require that  
 557 administrative expenditures be kept to the minimum necessary for  
 558 efficient and effective administration of the Voluntary  
 559 Prekindergarten Education Program. Administrative policies and  
 560 procedures shall be revised, to the maximum extent practicable,

561 to incorporate the use of automation and electronic submission  
 562 of forms, including those required for child eligibility and  
 563 enrollment, provider and class registration, and monthly  
 564 certification of attendance for payment. A school district may  
 565 use its automated daily attendance reporting system for the  
 566 purpose of transmitting attendance records to the early learning  
 567 coalition in a mutually agreed-upon format. In addition, actions  
 568 shall be taken to reduce paperwork, eliminate the duplication of  
 569 reports, and eliminate other duplicative activities. ~~Beginning~~  
 570 ~~with the 2011-2012 fiscal year,~~ Each early learning coalition  
 571 may retain and expend no more than 4.0 percent of the funds paid  
 572 by the coalition to private prekindergarten providers and public  
 573 schools under paragraph (5) (b). Funds retained by an early  
 574 learning coalition under this subsection may be used only for  
 575 administering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
 576 and may not be used for the school readiness program or other  
 577 programs.

578 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
 579 1002.72, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

580 1002.72 Records of children in the Voluntary  
 581 Prekindergarten Education Program.—

582 (3) (a) Confidential and exempt Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 583 Education Program records may be released to:

584 1. The United States Secretary of Education, the United  
 585 States Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the  
 586 Comptroller General of the United States for the purpose of  
 587 federal audits or investigations.

588 2. Individuals or organizations conducting studies for

589 institutions to develop, validate, or administer assessments or  
 590 improve instruction.

591 3. Accrediting organizations in order to carry out their  
 592 accrediting functions.

593 4. Appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if  
 594 the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of  
 595 the child or other individuals.

596 5. The Auditor General in connection with his or her  
 597 official functions.

598 6. A court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with an  
 599 order of that court pursuant to a lawfully issued subpoena.

600 7. Parties to an interagency agreement among early  
 601 learning coalitions, local governmental agencies, Voluntary  
 602 Prekindergarten Education Program providers, or state agencies  
 603 for the purpose of implementing the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 604 Education Program.

605 Section 14. Subsection (1) and paragraphs (a) and (d) of  
 606 subsection (2) of section 1002.75, Florida Statutes, are amended  
 607 to read:

608 1002.75 Office of Early Learning; powers and duties;  
 609 ~~operational requirements.~~

610 (1) The Office of Early Learning shall adopt by rule a  
 611 standard statewide provider contract to be used with each  
 612 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program provider, with  
 613 standardized attachments by provider type. The office shall  
 614 publish a copy of the standard statewide provider contract on  
 615 its website. The standard statewide contract shall include, at a  
 616 minimum, provisions for provider probation, termination for

617 cause, and emergency termination for those actions or inactions  
 618 of a provider that pose an immediate and serious danger to the  
 619 health, safety, or welfare of the children. The standard  
 620 statewide contract shall also include appropriate due process  
 621 procedures. During the pendency of an appeal of a termination,  
 622 the provider may not continue to offer its services. Any  
 623 provision imposed upon a provider that is inconsistent with, or  
 624 prohibited by, law is void and unenforceable. ~~The Office of~~  
 625 ~~Early Learning shall administer the operational requirements of~~  
 626 ~~the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program at the state~~  
 627 ~~level.~~

628 (2) The Office of Early Learning shall adopt procedures  
 629 governing the administration of the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 630 Education Program by the early learning coalitions and school  
 631 districts for:

632 (a) Enrolling children in and determining the eligibility  
 633 of children for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
 634 under s. 1002.53, which shall include the enrollment of children  
 635 by public schools and private providers that meet specified  
 636 requirements.

637 (d) Determining the eligibility of private prekindergarten  
 638 providers to deliver the program under ss. 1002.55 and 1002.61  
 639 and streamlining the process of provider eligibility whenever  
 640 possible.

641 Section 15. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section  
 642 1002.77, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

643 1002.77 Florida Early Learning Advisory Council.—

644 (1) There is created the Florida Early Learning Advisory

645 Council within the Office of Early Learning. The purpose of the  
 646 advisory council is to submit recommendations to the office  
 647 ~~department~~ on the early learning policy of this state, including  
 648 recommendations relating to administration of the Voluntary  
 649 Prekindergarten Education Program under this part and the school  
 650 readiness programs under part VI of this chapter s. 411.01. The  
 651 advisory council shall periodically analyze and provide  
 652 recommendations to the office on the effective and efficient use  
 653 of local, state, and federal funds; the content of instructor  
 654 training programs; and best practices for the development and  
 655 implementation of coalition plans pursuant to s. 1002.85.

656 (2) The advisory council shall be composed of the  
 657 following members:

658 (a) The chair of the advisory council who shall be  
 659 appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

660 (b) The chair of each early learning coalition or the  
 661 chair's designee.

662 (c) One member who shall be appointed by and serve at the  
 663 pleasure of the President of the Senate.

664 (d) One member who shall be appointed by and serve at the  
 665 pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

666  
 667 The chair of the advisory council appointed by the Governor and  
 668 the members appointed by the presiding officers of the  
 669 Legislature must each have a background in early learning or be  
 670 from the business community.

671 (3) The advisory council shall meet at least quarterly but  
 672 may meet as often as necessary to carry out its duties and

673 | responsibilities. The advisory council may use any method of  
 674 | telecommunication to conduct meetings, including establishing a  
 675 | quorum through telecommunications, only if the public is given  
 676 | proper notice of a telecommunications meeting and reasonable  
 677 | access to observe and, when appropriate, participate.

678 | Section 16. Section 1002.79, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 679 | to read:

680 | 1002.79 Rulemaking authority.—

681 | ~~(1) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under~~  
 682 | ~~ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer the provisions of this~~  
 683 | ~~part conferring duties upon the department.~~

684 | ~~(2) The Office of Early Learning shall adopt rules under~~  
 685 | ~~ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer the provisions of this~~  
 686 | ~~part conferring duties upon the office.~~

687 | Section 17. Part VI of chapter 1002, Florida Statutes,  
 688 | consisting of sections 1002.81 through 1002.98, is created to  
 689 | read:

690 | PART VI

691 | SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAMS

692 | 1002.81 Definitions.—Consistent with the requirements of  
 693 | 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99 and as used in this part, the term:

694 | (1) "At-risk child" means:

695 | (a) A child from a family under investigation by the  
 696 | Department of Children and Families or a designated sheriff's  
 697 | office for child abuse, neglect, abandonment, or exploitation.

698 | (b) A child who is in a diversion program provided by the  
 699 | Department of Children and Families or its contracted provider  
 700 | and who is from a family that is actively participating and

701 complying in department-prescribed activities, including  
 702 education, health services, or work.

703 (c) A child from a family that is under supervision by the  
 704 Department of Children and Families or a contracted service  
 705 provider for abuse, neglect, abandonment, or exploitation.

706 (d) A child placed in court-ordered, long-term custody or  
 707 under the guardianship of a relative or nonrelative after  
 708 termination of supervision by the Department of Children and  
 709 Families or its contracted provider.

710 (e) A child in the custody of a parent who is a victim of  
 711 domestic violence as verified by a Department of Children and  
 712 Families certified domestic violence shelter.

713 (f) A child in the custody of a parent who is considered  
 714 homeless as verified by a Department of Children and Families  
 715 certified homeless shelter.

716 (2) "Authorized hours of care" means the hours of care  
 717 that are necessary to provide protection, maintain employment,  
 718 or complete work activities or eligible educational activities,  
 719 including reasonable travel time.

720 (3) "Average market rate" means the biennially determined  
 721 average of the market rate by program care level and provider  
 722 type in a predetermined geographic market.

723 (4) "Direct enhancement services" means services for  
 724 families and children that are in addition to payments for the  
 725 placement of children in school readiness programs. Direct  
 726 enhancement services for families and children may include  
 727 supports for providers, parent training and involvement  
 728 activities, and strategies to meet the needs of unique

729 populations and local eligibility priorities. Direct enhancement  
730 services offered by an early learning coalition shall be  
731 consistent with the activities prescribed in s. 1002.89(6).

732 (5) "Disenrollment" means the removal either temporary or  
733 permanent, of a child from participation in the school readiness  
734 program. Removal of a child from the school readiness program  
735 may be based on the following events: a reduction in available  
736 school readiness funding, participant's failure to meet  
737 eligibility or program participation requirements, fraud, or a  
738 change in local service priorities or age limits.

739 (6) "Earned income" means gross remuneration derived from  
740 work, professional service, or self-employment. The term  
741 includes commissions, bonuses, back pay awards, and the cash  
742 value of all remuneration paid in a medium other than cash.

743 (7) "Economically disadvantaged" means having a family  
744 income that does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty  
745 level and includes being a child of a working migratory family  
746 as defined by 34 C.F.R. 200.81(d) or (f) or an agricultural  
747 worker who is employed by more than one agricultural employer  
748 during the course of a year, and whose income varies according  
749 to weather conditions and market stability.

750 (8) "Family income" means the combined gross income,  
751 whether earned or unearned, that is derived from any source by  
752 all family or household members who are 18 years of age or older  
753 who are currently residing together in the same dwelling unit.  
754 The term does not include income earned by a currently enrolled  
755 high school student who, since attaining the age of 18 years, or  
756 a student with a disability who, since attaining the age of 22

757 years, has not terminated school enrollment or received a high  
 758 school diploma, high school equivalency diploma, special  
 759 diploma, or certificate of high school completion. The term also  
 760 does not include food stamp benefits or federal housing  
 761 assistance payments issued directly to a landlord or the  
 762 associated utilities expenses.

763 (9) "Family or household members" means spouses, former  
 764 spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are  
 765 parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have  
 766 been married, and other persons who are currently residing  
 767 together in the same dwelling unit as if a family.

768 (10) "Full-time care" means at least 6 hours, but not more  
 769 than 11 hours, of child care or early childhood education  
 770 services within a 24-hour period.

771 (11) "Market rate" means the price that a child care or  
 772 early childhood education provider charges for full-time or  
 773 part-time daily, weekly, or monthly child care or early  
 774 childhood education services.

775 (12) "Office" means the Office of Early Learning of the  
 776 Department of Education.

777 (13) "Part-time care" means less than 6 hours of child  
 778 care or early childhood education services within a 24-hour  
 779 period.

780 (14) "Single point of entry" means an integrated  
 781 information system that allows a parent to enroll his or her  
 782 child in the school readiness program or the Voluntary  
 783 Prekindergarten Education Program at various locations  
 784 throughout a county, that may allow a parent to enroll his or

785 her child by telephone or through a website, and that uses a  
 786 uniform waiting list to track eligible children waiting for  
 787 enrollment in the school readiness program.

788 (15) "Unearned income" means income other than earned  
 789 income. The term includes, but is not limited to:

790 (a) Documented alimony and child support received.

791 (b) Social security benefits.

792 (c) Supplemental security income benefits.

793 (d) Workers' compensation benefits.

794 (e) Unemployment compensation benefits.

795 (f) Veterans' benefits.

796 (g) Retirement benefits.

797 (h) Temporary cash assistance under chapter 414.

798 (i) Military housing assistance under the federal Family  
 799 Subsistence Supplemental Allowance Program.

800 (16) "Working family" means:

801 (a) A single-parent family in which the parent with whom  
 802 the child resides is employed or engaged in eligible work or  
 803 education activities for at least 20 hours per week;

804 (b) A two-parent family in which both parents with whom  
 805 the child resides are employed or engaged in eligible work  
 806 activity for a combined total of at least 55 hours per week of  
 807 which 50 hours per week must be eligible core work activities;  
 808 or

809 (c) A two-parent family in which one of the parents with  
 810 whom the child resides is exempt from work requirements due to  
 811 age or disability, as determined and documented by a physician  
 812 licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, and one parent is

813 engaged in eligible work activity at least 30 hours per week of  
 814 which 20 hours per week are eligible core work activities, as  
 815 prescribed by rules of the office.

816 1002.82 Office of Early Learning; powers and duties.-

817 (1) For purposes of administration of the Child Care and  
 818 Development Block Grant Trust Fund, pursuant to 45 C.F.R. parts  
 819 98 and 99, the Office of Early Learning is designated as the  
 820 lead agency and must comply with lead agency responsibilities  
 821 pursuant to federal law. The office may apply to the Governor  
 822 and Cabinet for a waiver of, and the Governor and Cabinet may  
 823 wave, any provision of ss. 411.223 and 1003.54 if the waiver is  
 824 necessary for implementation of school readiness programs.  
 825 Section 125.901(2)(a)3. does not apply to school readiness  
 826 programs.

827 (2) The office shall:

828 (a) Focus on improving the educational quality of all  
 829 providers participating in the school readiness programs.

830 (b) Preserve parental choice by permitting parents to  
 831 choose from a variety of child care categories, including  
 832 center-based care, family child care, and informal child care to  
 833 the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and Development  
 834 Fund Plan as approved by the United States Department of Health  
 835 and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s. 98.18. Care and  
 836 curriculum by a sectarian provider may not be limited or  
 837 excluded in any of these categories.

838 (c) Be responsible for the prudent use of all public and  
 839 private funds in accordance with all legal and contractual  
 840 requirements, safeguarding the effective use of federal, state,

841 and local resources to achieve the highest practicable level of  
 842 school readiness for the children described in s. 1002.87,  
 843 including:

844 1. The adoption of a uniform chart of accounts for  
 845 budgeting and financial reporting purposes that provides  
 846 standardized definitions for expenditures and reporting,  
 847 consistent with the requirements of 45 C.F.R. part 98 and s.  
 848 1002.89 for each of the following categories of expenditure:

- 849 a. Direct services to children.
- 850 b. Administrative costs.
- 851 c. Quality activities.
- 852 d. Nondirect services.

853 2. Coordination with other state and federal agencies to  
 854 perform data matches on children participating in school  
 855 readiness programs and their families in order to verify the  
 856 children's eligibility pursuant to s. 1002.87.

857 (d) Establish procedures for the biennial calculation of  
 858 the average market rate.

859 (e) Review each early learning coalition's school  
 860 readiness plans every 2 years and provide final approval of the  
 861 plan and any amendments submitted.

862 (f) Establish a unified approach to the state's efforts to  
 863 coordinate a comprehensive early learning program. In support of  
 864 this effort, the office:

865 1. Shall adopt specific program support services that  
 866 address the state's school readiness programs, including:

- 867 a. Statewide data information program requirements that  
 868 include:

- 869 |       (I) Eligibility requirements.
- 870 |       (II) Financial reports.
- 871 |       (III) Program accountability measures.
- 872 |       (IV) Child progress reports.
- 873 |       b. Child care resource and referral services.
- 874 |       c. A single point of entry and uniform waiting list.
- 875 |       2. May provide technical assistance and guidance on
- 876 | additional support services to compliment the school readiness
- 877 | programs, including:
- 878 |       a. Rating and improvement systems.
- 879 |       b. Warm-Line services.
- 880 |       c. Anti-fraud plans.
- 881 |       c. Child performance standards.
- 882 |       d. Child screening and assessments.
- 883 |       e. Training and support for parental involvement in
- 884 | children's early education.
- 885 |       f. Family literacy activities and services.
- 886 |       (g) Provide technical assistance to early learning
- 887 | coalitions.
- 888 |       (h) In cooperation with the early learning coalitions,
- 889 | coordinate with the Child Care Services Program Office of the
- 890 | Department of Children and Families to reduce paperwork and to
- 891 | avoid duplicating interagency activities, health and safety
- 892 | monitoring, and acquiring and composing data pertaining to child
- 893 | care training and credentialing.
- 894 |       (i) Develop, in coordination with the Child Care
- 895 | Regulation Office of the Department of Children and Families,

896 and adopt a health and safety checklist to be completed by  
897 licensed-exempt providers.

898 (j) Develop and adopt child performance standards and  
899 benchmarks that address the age-appropriate progress of children  
900 in the development of school readiness skills. The child  
901 performance standards for children from birth to 4 years of age  
902 in school readiness programs must be aligned with the  
903 performance standards adopted for children in the Voluntary  
904 Prekindergarten Education Program and must address the following  
905 domains:

- 906 1. Approaches to learning.
- 907 2. Cognitive development and general knowledge.
- 908 3. Numeracy, language, and communication.
- 909 4. Physical development.
- 910 5. Self-regulation.

911 (k) Select assessments that are valid, reliable, and  
912 developmentally appropriate for use as preassessment and  
913 postassessment for the age ranges specified in the coalition  
914 plans. The assessments must be designed to measure progress in  
915 the domains of the performance standards adopted pursuant to  
916 paragraph (j), provide appropriate accommodations for children  
917 with disabilities and English language learners, and be  
918 administered by qualified individuals, consistent with the  
919 publisher's instructions.

920 (l) Adopt a list of approved curricula that meet the  
921 performance standards for school readiness programs and  
922 establish a process for the review and approval of a provider's  
923 curriculum that meets the performance standards.

924 (m) Adopt by rule a standard statewide provider contract  
 925 to be used with each school readiness provider, with  
 926 standardized attachments by provider type. The office shall  
 927 publish a copy of the standard statewide provider contract on  
 928 its website. The standard statewide contract shall include, at a  
 929 minimum, provisions for provider probation, termination for  
 930 cause, and emergency termination for those actions or inactions  
 931 of a provider that pose an immediate and serious danger to the  
 932 health, safety, or welfare of the children. The standard  
 933 statewide provider contract shall also include appropriate due  
 934 process procedures. During the pendency of an appeal of a  
 935 termination, the provider may not continue to offer its  
 936 services. Any provision imposed upon a provider that is  
 937 inconsistent with, or prohibited by, law is void and  
 938 unenforceable.

939 (n) Establish a single statewide information system that  
 940 each coalition must use for the purposes of managing the single  
 941 point of entry, tracking children's progress, coordinating  
 942 services among stakeholders, determining eligibility of  
 943 children, tracking child attendance, and streamlining  
 944 administrative processes for providers and early learning  
 945 coalitions.

946 (o) Adopt by rule standardized procedures for coalitions  
 947 to use when monitoring the compliance of school readiness  
 948 providers with the terms of the standard statewide provider  
 949 contract.

950 (p) Monitor and evaluate the performance of each early  
 951 learning coalition in administering the school readiness

952 program, ensuring proper payments for school readiness services,  
 953 implementing the coalition's school readiness plan, and  
 954 administering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.  
 955 These monitoring and performance evaluations must include, at a  
 956 minimum, onsite monitoring of each coalition's finances,  
 957 management, operations, and programs.

958 (q) Work in conjunction with the Bureau of Federal  
 959 Education Programs within the Department of Education to  
 960 coordinate readiness and voluntary prekindergarten services to  
 961 the populations served by the bureau.

962 (r) Administer a statewide toll-free Warm-Line to provide  
 963 assistance and consultation to child care centers and family day  
 964 care homes regarding health, developmental, disability, and  
 965 special needs issues of the children they are serving,  
 966 particularly children with disabilities and other special needs.  
 967 The office shall:

968 1. Annually inform child care centers and family day care  
 969 homes of the availability of this service through the child care  
 970 resource and referral network under s. 1002.92.

971 2. Expand or contract for the expansion of the Warm-Line  
 972 to maintain at least one Warm-Line in each early learning  
 973 coalition service area.

974 (s) Administer the requirements of the Voluntary  
 975 Prekindergarten Education Program at the state level.

976 (3) If the office determines during the review of school  
 977 readiness plans, or through monitoring and performance  
 978 evaluations conducted under s. 1002.85, that an early learning  
 979 coalition has not substantially implemented its plan, has not

980 substantially met the performance standards and outcome measures  
 981 adopted by the office, or has not effectively administered the  
 982 school readiness program or Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 983 Program, the office may temporarily contract with a qualified  
 984 entity to continue school readiness and prekindergarten services  
 985 in the coalition's county or multicounty region until the office  
 986 reestablishes the coalition and a new school readiness plan is  
 987 approved in accordance with the rules adopted by the office.

988 (4) The office may request the Governor to apply for a  
 989 waiver to allow a coalition to administer the Head Start Program  
 990 to accomplish the purposes of the school readiness program.

991 (5) By January 1 of each year, the office shall annually  
 992 publish on its website a report of its activities conducted  
 993 under this section. The report must include a summary of the  
 994 coalitions' annual reports, a statewide summary, and the  
 995 following:

996 (a) An analysis of early learning activities throughout  
 997 the state, including the school readiness program and the  
 998 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

999 1. The total and average number of children served in the  
 1000 school readiness program, enumerated by age, eligibility  
 1001 priority category, and coalition, and the total number of  
 1002 children served in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 1003 Program.

1004 2. A summary of expenditures by coalition, by fund source,  
 1005 including a breakdown by coalition of the percentage of  
 1006 expenditures for administrative activities, quality activities,  
 1007 nondirect services, and direct services for children.

1008       3. A description of the office's and each coalition's  
 1009 expenditures by fund source for the quality activities described  
 1010 in s. 1002.89(6) (b).

1011       4. A summary of annual findings and collections related to  
 1012 provider fraud and parent fraud.

1013       5. Data regarding the coalitions' delivery of early  
 1014 learning programs.

1015       6. The total number of children disenrolled statewide and  
 1016 the reason for disenrollment.

1017       7. The total number of providers by provider type.

1018       8. The total number of provider contracts revoked and the  
 1019 reasons for revocation.

1020       (b) A summary of the activities and detailed expenditures  
 1021 related to the Child Care Executive Partnership Program.

1022       (6) Administrative staff shall be kept to the minimum  
 1023 necessary to administer the duties of the office.

1024       (7) (a) Parental choice of child care providers, including  
 1025 private and faith-based providers, shall be established to the  
 1026 maximum extent practicable in accordance with 45 C.F.R. s.  
 1027 98.30.

1028       (b) As used in this subsection, the term "payment  
 1029 certificate" means a child care certificate as defined in 45  
 1030 C.F.R. s. 98.2.

1031       (c) The school readiness program shall, in accordance with  
 1032 45 C.F.R. s. 98.30, provide parental choice through a payment  
 1033 certificate that provides, to the maximum extent possible,  
 1034 flexibility in the school readiness program and payment  
 1035 arrangements. The payment certificate must bear the names of the

1036 beneficiary and the program provider and, when redeemed, must  
 1037 bear the signatures of both the beneficiary and an authorized  
 1038 representative of the provider.

1039 (d) If it is determined that a provider has given any cash  
 1040 or other consideration to the beneficiary in return for  
 1041 receiving a payment certificate, the early learning coalition or  
 1042 its fiscal agent shall refer the matter to the Department of  
 1043 Financial Services pursuant to s. 414.411 for investigation.

1044 (8) Participation in the school readiness program does not  
 1045 expand the regulatory authority of the state, its officers, or  
 1046 an early learning coalition to impose any additional regulation  
 1047 on providers beyond those necessary to enforce the requirements  
 1048 set forth in this part.

1049 1002.83 Early learning coalitions.-

1050 (1) Thirty-one or fewer early learning coalitions are  
 1051 established and shall maintain direct enhancement services at  
 1052 the local level and provide access to such services in all 67  
 1053 counties. Two or more early learning coalitions may join for  
 1054 purposes of planning and implementing a school readiness program  
 1055 and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

1056 (2) Each early learning coalition shall be composed of at  
 1057 least 15 members but not more than 30 members.

1058 (3) The Governor shall appoint the chair and two other  
 1059 members of each early learning coalition, who must each meet the  
 1060 same qualifications as private sector business members appointed  
 1061 by the coalition under subsection (5).

1062 (4) Each early learning coalition must include the  
 1063 following member positions; however, in a multicounty coalition,

1064 each ex officio member position may be filled by multiple  
 1065 nonvoting members but no more than one voting member shall be  
 1066 seated per member position. If an early learning coalition has  
 1067 more than one member representing the same entity, only one of  
 1068 such members may serve as a voting member:

1069 (a) A Department of Children and Families regional  
 1070 administrator or his or her designee who is authorized to make  
 1071 decisions on behalf of the department.

1072 (b) A district superintendent of schools or his or her  
 1073 designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the  
 1074 district.

1075 (c) A regional workforce board executive director or his  
 1076 or her designee.

1077 (d) A county health department director or his or her  
 1078 designee.

1079 (e) A children's services council or juvenile welfare  
 1080 board chair or executive director, if applicable.

1081 (f) An agency head of a local licensing agency as defined  
 1082 in s. 402.302, where applicable.

1083 (g) A president of a Florida College System institution or  
 1084 his or her designee.

1085 (h) One member appointed by a board of county  
 1086 commissioners or the governing board of a municipality.

1087 (i) A Head Start director.

1088 (j) A representative of private for-profit child care  
 1089 providers, including private for-profit family day care homes.

1090 (k) A representative of faith-based child care providers.

1091 (1) A representative of programs for children with  
 1092 disabilities under the federal Individuals with Disabilities  
 1093 Education Act.

1094 (5) Including the members appointed by the Governor under  
 1095 subsection (3), more than one-third of the members of each early  
 1096 learning coalition must be private sector business members,  
 1097 either for-profit or nonprofit, who do not have, and none of  
 1098 whose relatives as defined in s. 112.3143 has, a substantial  
 1099 financial interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary  
 1100 Prekindergarten Education Program created under part V of this  
 1101 chapter or the coalition's school readiness program. To meet  
 1102 this requirement an early learning coalition must appoint  
 1103 additional members. The office shall establish criteria for  
 1104 appointing private sector business members. These criteria must  
 1105 include standards for determining whether a member or relative  
 1106 has a substantial financial interest in the design or delivery  
 1107 of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or the  
 1108 coalition's school readiness program.

1109 (6) A majority of the voting membership of an early  
 1110 learning coalition constitutes a quorum required to conduct the  
 1111 business of the coalition. An early learning coalition may use  
 1112 any method of telecommunications to conduct meetings, including  
 1113 establishing a quorum through telecommunications, provided that  
 1114 the public is given proper notice of a telecommunications  
 1115 meeting and reasonable access to observe and, when appropriate,  
 1116 participate.

1117 (7) A voting member of an early learning coalition may not  
 1118 appoint a designee to act in his or her place, except as

1119 otherwise provided in this subsection. A voting member may send  
 1120 a representative to coalition meetings but that representative  
 1121 does not have voting privileges. When a regional administrator  
 1122 for the Department of Children and Families appoints a designee  
 1123 to an early learning coalition, the designee is the voting  
 1124 member of the coalition, and any individual attending in the  
 1125 designee's place, including the district administrator, does not  
 1126 have voting privileges.

1127 (8) Each member of an early learning coalition is subject  
 1128 to ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143. For purposes of s.  
 1129 112.3143(3)(a), each voting member is a local public officer who  
 1130 must abstain from voting when a voting conflict exists.

1131 (9) For purposes of tort liability, each member or  
 1132 employee of an early learning coalition shall be governed by s.  
 1133 768.28.

1134 (10) An early learning coalition serving a multicounty  
 1135 region must include representation from each county.

1136 (11) Each early learning coalition shall establish terms  
 1137 for all appointed members of the coalition. The terms must be  
 1138 staggered and must be a uniform length that does not exceed 4  
 1139 years per term. Coalition chairs shall be appointed for 4 years  
 1140 in conjunction with their membership on the Early Learning  
 1141 Advisory Council pursuant to s. 20.052. Appointed members may  
 1142 serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. When a vacancy occurs  
 1143 in an appointed position, the coalition must advertise the  
 1144 vacancy.

1145 (12) State, federal, and local matching funds provided to  
 1146 the early learning coalitions may not be used directly or

1147 indirectly to pay for meals, food, or beverages for coalition  
 1148 members, coalition employees, or for subcontractor employees.  
 1149 Preapproved, reasonable, and necessary per diem allowances and  
 1150 travel expenses may be reimbursed. Such reimbursement shall be  
 1151 at the standard travel reimbursement rates established in s.  
 1152 112.061 and must comply with applicable federal and state  
 1153 requirements.

1154 (13) Each early learning coalition shall use a coordinated  
 1155 professional development system that supports the achievement  
 1156 and maintenance of core competencies by school readiness  
 1157 teachers in helping children attain the performance standards  
 1158 adopted by the office.

1159 (14) Each school district shall, upon request of the  
 1160 coalition, make a list of all individuals currently eligible to  
 1161 act as a substitute teacher within the school district, pursuant  
 1162 to rules adopted by the school district pursuant to s. 1012.35,  
 1163 available to an early learning coalition serving students within  
 1164 the school district. Child care facilities as defined in s.  
 1165 402.302 may employ individuals listed as substitute instructors  
 1166 for the purpose of offering the school readiness program, the  
 1167 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, and all other  
 1168 legally operating child care programs.

1169 1002.84 Early learning coalitions; school readiness powers  
 1170 and duties.—Each early learning coalition shall:

1171 (1) Administer and implement a local comprehensive program  
 1172 of school readiness services in accordance with this part and  
 1173 the rules adopted by the office, which enhances the cognitive,  
 1174 social, and physical development of children to achieve the

1175 performance standards.

1176 (2) Establish a uniform waiting list to track eligible  
 1177 children waiting for enrollment in the school readiness program  
 1178 in accordance with rules adopted by the office.

1179 (3) Establish a resource and referral network operating  
 1180 under 1002.92 to assist parents in making an informed choice and  
 1181 provide maximum parental choice of providers, and to provide  
 1182 information on available community resources.

1183 (4) Establish a regional Warm-Line as directed by the  
 1184 office pursuant to s. 1002.82(2)(r). Regional Warm-Line staff  
 1185 shall provide onsite technical assistance, when requested, to  
 1186 assist child care centers and family day care homes with  
 1187 inquiries relating to the strategies, curriculum, and  
 1188 environmental adaptations the child care centers and family day  
 1189 care homes may need as they serve children with disabilities and  
 1190 other special needs.

1191 (5) Establish an age-appropriate screening, for children  
 1192 ages birth to 5 years, of each child's development and an  
 1193 appropriate referral process for children with identified  
 1194 delays. Such screening shall not be a requirement of entry into  
 1195 school readiness programs and shall be only given with parental  
 1196 consent.

1197 (6) Implement an age-appropriate preassessment and  
 1198 postassessment of children as specified in the coalition's plan.

1199 (7) Determine child eligibility pursuant to s. 1002.87 and  
 1200 provider eligibility pursuant to s. 1002.88. At a minimum, child  
 1201 eligibility must be redetermined annually. Redetermination must  
 1202 also be conducted biannually for an additional 50 percent of a

1203 coalition's enrollment through a statistically valid random  
 1204 sampling. A coalition must document the reason why a child is no  
 1205 longer eligible for the school readiness program according to  
 1206 the standard codes prescribed by the office.

1207 (8) Establish a parent sliding fee scale that requires a  
 1208 parent copayment to participate in the school readiness program.  
 1209 Providers are required to collect the parent's copayment. A  
 1210 coalition may, on a case-by-case basis, waive the copayment for  
 1211 an at-risk child or temporarily waive the copayment for a child  
 1212 whose family experiences a natural disaster or an event that  
 1213 limits the parent's ability to pay, such as incarceration,  
 1214 placement in residential treatment, or becoming homeless, or an  
 1215 emergency situation such as a household fire or burglary, or  
 1216 while the parent is participating in parenting classes. A parent  
 1217 may not transfer school readiness services to another school  
 1218 readiness provider until the parent has submitted documentation  
 1219 from the current school readiness provider to the early learning  
 1220 coalition stating that the parent has satisfactorily fulfilled  
 1221 the copayment obligation.

1222 (9) Establish proper maintenance of records related to  
 1223 eligibility and enrollment files, provider payments, coalition  
 1224 staff background screenings, and other documents required for  
 1225 the implementation of the school readiness program.

1226 (10) Establish a records retention requirement for sign-in  
 1227 and sign-out records that is consistent with state and federal  
 1228 law. Attendance records shall not be altered or amended after  
 1229 December 31 of the subsequent year.

1230 (11) Follow the requirements established by the Chief

1231 Financial Officer for the recording of property and for the  
 1232 periodic review of property for inventory purposes.

1233 (12) Comply with federal procurement requirements and the  
 1234 procurement requirements of ss. 215.971, 287.057, and 287.058,  
 1235 except that an early learning coalition is not required to  
 1236 competitively procure direct services for school readiness and  
 1237 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program providers.

1238 (13) Establish proper information technology security  
 1239 controls, including, but not limited to, periodically reviewing  
 1240 the appropriateness of access privileges assigned to users of  
 1241 certain systems; monitoring system hardware performance and  
 1242 capacity-related issues; and ensuring appropriate backup  
 1243 procedures and disaster recovery plans are in place.

1244 (14) Develop written policies, procedures, and standards  
 1245 for monitoring vendor contracts, including, but not limited to,  
 1246 provisions specifying the particular procedures that may be used  
 1247 to evaluate contractor performance and the documentation that is  
 1248 to be maintained to serve as a record of contractor performance.  
 1249 This subsection does not apply to contracts with school  
 1250 readiness providers or Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 1251 Program providers.

1252 (15) Monitor school readiness providers on an annual  
 1253 basis, or in response to a parental complaint, to determine that  
 1254 the standards prescribed in ss. 1002.82 and 1002.88 are met  
 1255 using a standard monitoring tool adopted by the office.  
 1256 Providers determined to be high-risk by the coalition, as  
 1257 demonstrated by substantial findings of violations of federal  
 1258 law or the general or local laws of the state, shall be

1259 monitored more frequently. Providers with 3 consecutive years of  
 1260 compliance may be monitored biennially.

1261 (16) Adopt a payment schedule that encompasses all  
 1262 programs funded under this part. The payment schedule must take  
 1263 into consideration the average market rate, include the  
 1264 projected number of children to be served, and be submitted for  
 1265 approval by the office. Informal child care arrangements shall  
 1266 be reimbursed at not more than 50 percent of the rate adopted  
 1267 for a family day care home.

1268 (17) Implement an anti-fraud plan addressing the  
 1269 detection, reporting, and prevention of overpayments, abuse, and  
 1270 fraud relating to the provision of and payment for school  
 1271 readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
 1272 services and submit the plan to the office for approval, as  
 1273 required by s. 1002.91.

1274 (18) By October 1 of each year, submit an annual report to  
 1275 the office. The report shall conform to the format adopted by  
 1276 the office and must include:

1277 (a) Segregation of school readiness funds, Voluntary  
 1278 Prekindergarten Education Program funds, Child Care Executive  
 1279 Partnership Program funds, and other local revenues available to  
 1280 the coalition.

1281 (b) Details of expenditures by fund source, including  
 1282 total expenditures for administrative activities, quality  
 1283 activities, nondirect services, and direct services for  
 1284 children.

1285 (c) The total number of coalition staff and the related  
 1286 expenditures for salaries and benefits. For any subcontracts,

1287 the total number of contracted staff and the related  
 1288 expenditures for salaries and benefits must be included.  
 1289 (d) The number of children served in the school readiness  
 1290 program, by provider type, enumerated by age and eligibility  
 1291 priority category, reported as the number of children served  
 1292 during the month, the average full-time equivalent child  
 1293 participation throughout the month, and the number of children  
 1294 served during the month.  
 1295 (e) The total number of children disenrolled during the  
 1296 year and the reasons for disenrollment.  
 1297 (f) The total number of providers by provider type.  
 1298 (g) A listing of any school readiness provider, by type,  
 1299 whose eligibility to deliver the school readiness program is  
 1300 revoked, including a brief description of the state or federal  
 1301 violation that resulted in the revocation.  
 1302 (h) An evaluation of its direct enhancement services.  
 1303 (i) The total number of children served in each provider  
 1304 facility.  
 1305 (19) Maintain its administrative staff at the minimum  
 1306 necessary to administer the duties of the early learning  
 1307 coalition.  
 1308 (20) To increase transparency and accountability, comply  
 1309 with the requirements of this section before contracting with a  
 1310 member of the coalition or a relative, as defined in s.  
 1311 112.3143(1)(b), of a coalition member or of an employee of the  
 1312 coalition. Such contracts may not be executed without the  
 1313 approval of the office. Such contracts, as well as documentation  
 1314 demonstrating adherence to this section by the office, must be

1315 approved by a two-thirds vote of the coalition, a quorum having  
 1316 been established; all conflicts of interest must be disclosed  
 1317 before the vote; and any member who may benefit from the  
 1318 contract, or whose relative may benefit from the contract, must  
 1319 abstain from the vote. A contract under \$25,000 between an early  
 1320 learning coalition and a member of that coalition or between a  
 1321 relative, as defined in s. 112.3143(1)(b), of a coalition member  
 1322 or of an employee of the coalition is not required to have the  
 1323 prior approval of the office but must be approved by a two-  
 1324 thirds vote of the coalition, a quorum having been established,  
 1325 and must be reported to the office within 30 days after  
 1326 approval. If a contract cannot be approved by the office, a  
 1327 review of the decision to disapprove the contract may be  
 1328 requested by the early learning coalition or other parties to  
 1329 the disapproved contract.

1330 1002.85 Early learning coalition plans.—

1331 (1) The office shall adopt rules prescribing the  
 1332 standardized format and required content of school readiness  
 1333 plans as necessary for a coalition or other qualified entity to  
 1334 administer the school readiness program as provided in this  
 1335 part.

1336 (2) Each early learning coalition must biennially submit a  
 1337 school readiness plan to the office before the expenditure of  
 1338 funds. A coalition may not implement its school readiness plan  
 1339 until it receives approval from the office. A coalition may not  
 1340 implement any revision to its school readiness plan until the  
 1341 coalition submits the revised plan to and receives approval from  
 1342 the office. If the office rejects a plan or revision, the

1343 coalition must continue to operate under its previously approved  
 1344 plan. The plan must include, but is not limited to:

1345 (a) The coalition's operations, including its membership  
 1346 and business organization, and the coalition's articles of  
 1347 incorporation and bylaws if the coalition is organized as a  
 1348 corporation. If the coalition is not organized as a corporation  
 1349 or other business entity, the plan must include the contract  
 1350 with a fiscal agent.

1351 (b) The minimum number of children to be served by care  
 1352 level.

1353 (c) The coalition's procedures for implementing the  
 1354 requirements of this part, including:

- 1355 1. Single point of entry.
- 1356 2. Uniform waiting list.
- 1357 4. Eligibility and enrollment processes.
- 1358 5. Parent access and choice.
- 1359 6. Sliding fee scale and policies on applying the waiver or  
 1360 reduction of fees in accordance with 1002.84(8).
- 1361 7. Use of preassessments and postassessments, as  
 1362 applicable.
- 1363 8. Payment rate.

1364 (d) A detailed description of the coalition's quality  
 1365 activities and services, including:

- 1366 1. Resource and referral and school-age child care.
- 1367 2. Infant and toddler early learning.
- 1368 3. Inclusive early learning programs.

1369 (e) A detailed budget that outlines estimated expenditures  
 1370 for state, federal, and local matching funds at the lowest level

1371 of detail available by other-cost-accumulator code number; all  
 1372 estimated sources of revenue with identifiable descriptions; a  
 1373 listing of full-time equivalent positions; contracted  
 1374 subcontractor costs with related annual compensation amount or  
 1375 hourly rate of compensation; and a capital improvements plan  
 1376 outlining existing fixed capital outlay projects and proposed  
 1377 capital outlay projects that will begin during the budget year.

1378 (f) A detailed accounting, in the format prescribed by the  
 1379 office, of all revenues and expenditures during the previous  
 1380 state fiscal year. Revenue sources should be identifiable and  
 1381 expenditures should be reported by three categories: state and  
 1382 federal funds, local matching funds, and Child Care Executive  
 1383 Partnership Program funds.

1384 (g) Updated policies and procedures, including those  
 1385 governing procurement, maintenance of tangible personal  
 1386 property, maintenance of records, information technology  
 1387 security, and disbursement controls.

1388 (h) A description of the procedures for monitoring school  
 1389 readiness providers on an annual basis or, in response to a  
 1390 parental complaint, to determine that the standards prescribed  
 1391 in ss. 1002.82 and 1002.88 are met using a standard monitoring  
 1392 tool adopted by the office. Providers determined to be high risk  
 1393 by the coalition as demonstrated by substantial findings of  
 1394 violations of law shall be monitored more frequently.

1395 (i) Documentation that the coalition has solicited and  
 1396 considered comments regarding the proposed school readiness plan  
 1397 from the local community.

1398 (3) The coalition may periodically amend its plan as

1399 necessary. An amended plan must be submitted to and approved by  
 1400 the office before any expenditures are incurred on the new  
 1401 activities proposed in the amendment.

1402 (4) The office shall publish a copy of the standardized  
 1403 format and required content of school readiness plans on its  
 1404 website.

1405 (5) The office shall collect and report data on coalition  
 1406 delivery of early learning programs. Elements shall include, but  
 1407 are not limited to, measures related to progress towards  
 1408 reducing the number of children on the waitlist, the percentage  
 1409 of children served by the program as compared to the number of  
 1410 administrative staff and overhead, the percentage of children  
 1411 served compared to total number of children under the age of 5  
 1412 years below 150 percent of the federal poverty line, provider  
 1413 payment processes, fraud intervention, child attendance and  
 1414 stability, use of child care resource and referral, and  
 1415 kindergarten readiness outcomes for children in the Voluntary  
 1416 Prekindergarten Education Program or the school readiness  
 1417 program upon entry into kindergarten. The office shall request  
 1418 input from the coalitions and school readiness providers before  
 1419 finalizing the format and data to be used. The report shall be  
 1420 implemented beginning July 1, 2014, and results of the report  
 1421 must be included in the annual report under s. 1002.82.

1422 1002.87 School readiness program; eligibility and  
 1423 enrollment.-

1424 (1) Effective August 1, 2013, or upon reevaluation of  
 1425 eligibility for children currently served, whichever is later,

1426 each early learning coalition shall give priority for  
 1427 participation in the school readiness program as follows:  
 1428 (a) Priority shall be given first to a child younger than  
 1429 13 years of age from a family that includes a parent who is  
 1430 receiving temporary cash assistance under chapter 414 and  
 1431 subject to the federal work requirements or a parent who  
 1432 transitions from the work program into employment as described  
 1433 in s. 445.032.  
 1434 (b) Priority shall be given next to an at-risk child  
 1435 younger than 9 years of age.  
 1436 (c) Priority shall be given next to a child from birth to  
 1437 the beginning of the school year for which the child is eligible  
 1438 for admission to kindergarten in a public school under s.  
 1439 1003.21(1)(a)2., from a working family that is economically  
 1440 disadvantaged. However, the child ceases to be eligible if his  
 1441 or her family income exceeds 200 percent of the federal poverty  
 1442 level.  
 1443 (d) Priority shall be given next to an at-risk child who  
 1444 is at least 9 years of age but younger than 13 years of age. An  
 1445 at-risk child whose sibling is enrolled in the school readiness  
 1446 program within an eligibility priority category listed in  
 1447 paragraphs (a)-(c) shall be given priority over other children  
 1448 who are eligible under this paragraph.  
 1449 (e) Priority shall be given next to a child who has  
 1450 special needs, has been determined eligible as a student with a  
 1451 disability, has a current individual education plan with a  
 1452 Florida school district, and is not younger than 3 years of age.  
 1453 A special needs child eligible under this paragraph remains

1454 eligible until the child is eligible for admission to  
 1455 kindergarten in a public school under s. 1003.21(1)(a)2.

1456 (f) Priority shall be given next to a child who is younger  
 1457 than 13 years of age from a working family that is economically  
 1458 disadvantaged. A child who is eligible under this paragraph  
 1459 whose sibling is enrolled in the school readiness program under  
 1460 paragraph (c) shall be given priority over other children who  
 1461 are eligible under this paragraph.

1462 (g) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a)-(d), priority shall be  
 1463 given last to a child who otherwise meets one of the eligibility  
 1464 criteria in paragraphs (a)-(d) but who is also enrolled  
 1465 concurrently in the federal Head Start Program and the Voluntary  
 1466 Prekindergarten Education Program.

1467 (2) A school readiness provider may be paid only for  
 1468 authorized hours of care provided for a child in the school  
 1469 readiness program. A child enrolled in the Voluntary  
 1470 Prekindergarten Education Program may receive care from the  
 1471 school readiness program if the child is eligible according to  
 1472 the eligibility priorities in this section.

1473 (3) Contingent upon the availability of funds, a coalition  
 1474 shall enroll eligible children, including those from its waiting  
 1475 list, according to the eligibility priorities in this section.

1476 (4) The parent of a child enrolled in the school readiness  
 1477 program must notify the coalition or its designee within 10 days  
 1478 after any change in employment, income, or family size. Upon  
 1479 notification by the parent, the child's eligibility must be  
 1480 reevaluated.

1481        (5) A child whose eligibility priority category requires  
 1482 the child to be from a working family ceases to be eligible for  
 1483 the school readiness program if a parent with whom the child  
 1484 resides does not reestablish employment within 60 days after  
 1485 becoming unemployed.

1486        (6) Eligibility for each child must be reevaluated  
 1487 annually. Upon reevaluation, a child may not continue to receive  
 1488 school readiness services if he or she has ceased to be eligible  
 1489 under this section.

1490        (7) If a coalition disenrolls children from the school  
 1491 readiness program, the coalition must disenroll the children in  
 1492 reverse order of the eligibility priorities listed in subsection  
 1493 (1) beginning with children from families with the highest  
 1494 family incomes. A notice of disenrollment must be sent to the  
 1495 parent and school readiness provider at least 2 weeks before  
 1496 disenrollment to provide adequate time for the parent to arrange  
 1497 alternative care for the child. However, an at-risk child may  
 1498 not be disenrolled from the program without the written approval  
 1499 of the Child Welfare Program Office of the Department of  
 1500 Children and Families or the community-based lead agency.

1501        (8) If a child is absent from the program for 5  
 1502 consecutive days without parental notification to the program of  
 1503 such absence, the school readiness provider shall report the  
 1504 absence to the early learning coalition for a determination of  
 1505 the need for continued care.

1506        (9) Notwithstanding s. 39.604, a school readiness  
 1507 provider, regardless of whether the provider is licensed, shall  
 1508 comply with the reporting requirements of the Rilya Wilson Act

1509 for each at-risk child under the age of school entry who is  
 1510 enrolled in the school readiness program.

1511 1002.88 School readiness provider standards; eligibility  
 1512 to deliver the school readiness program.-

1513 (1) To be eligible to deliver the school readiness  
 1514 program, a school readiness provider must:

1515 (a) Be a child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, a  
 1516 family day care home licensed or registered under s. 402.313, a  
 1517 large family child care home licensed under s. 402.3131, a  
 1518 public school or nonpublic school exempt from licensure under s.  
 1519 402.3025, a faith-based child care provider exempt from  
 1520 licensure under s. 402.316, a before-school or after-school  
 1521 program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), or an informal child care  
 1522 provider to the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and  
 1523 Development Fund Plan as approved by the United States  
 1524 Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s.  
 1525 98.18.

1526 (b) Provide instruction and activities to enhance the age-  
 1527 appropriate progress of each child in attaining the child  
 1528 development standards adopted by the office.

1529 (c) Provide basic health and safety of its premises and  
 1530 facilities and compliance with requirements for age-appropriate  
 1531 immunizations of children enrolled in the school readiness  
 1532 program. For a child care facility, a large family child care  
 1533 home, or a licensed family day care home, compliance with s.  
 1534 402.305, s. 402.3131, or s. 402.313 satisfies this requirement.  
 1535 For a public or nonpublic school, compliance with s. 402.3025 or  
 1536 s. 1003.22 satisfies this requirement. A faith-based child care

1537 provider, an informal child care provider, or a nonpublic  
 1538 school, exempt from licensure under ss. 402.316 or 402.3025,  
 1539 shall annually complete the health and safety checklist adopted  
 1540 by the office, post the checklist prominently on its premises in  
 1541 plain site for visitors and parents, and submit it annually to  
 1542 its local early learning coalition.

1543 (d) Provide an appropriate staff-to-children ratio,  
 1544 pursuant to s. 402.305(4) or s. 402.302(8) or (11), as  
 1545 applicable, and as verified pursuant to s. 402.311.

1546 (e) Provide a healthy and safe environment pursuant to s.  
 1547 402.305(5), (6), and (7), as applicable, and as verified  
 1548 pursuant to s. 402.311.

1549 (f) Implement one of the curriculum approved by the office  
 1550 that meets the child development standards.

1551 (g) Implement a character development program to develop  
 1552 basic values.

1553 (h) Collaborate with the respective early learning  
 1554 coalition to complete initial screening for each child, aged 6  
 1555 weeks to kindergarten eligibility, within 45 days after the  
 1556 child's first or subsequent enrollment, to identify a child who  
 1557 may need individualized supports.

1558 (i) Implement minimum standards for child discipline  
 1559 practices that are age-appropriate and consistent with the  
 1560 requirements in s. 402.305(12). Such standards must provide that  
 1561 children not be subjected to discipline that is severe,  
 1562 humiliating, or frightening or discipline that is associated  
 1563 with food, rest, or toileting. Spanking or any other form of  
 1564 physical punishment is prohibited.

1565 (j) Obtain and keep on file record of the child's  
1566 immunizations, physical development, and other health  
1567 requirements as necessary, including appropriate vision and  
1568 hearing screening and examination, within 30 days after  
1569 enrollment.

1570 (k) Implement before-school or after-school programs that  
1571 meet or exceed the requirements of s. 402.305(5), (6), and (7).

1572 (l) For a provider that is not an informal provider,  
1573 maintain general liability insurance and provide the coalition  
1574 written evidence of general liability insurance coverage,  
1575 including coverage of transportation of children if school  
1576 readiness children are transported by the provider. A provider  
1577 must obtain and retain an insurance policy that provides a  
1578 minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence and a minimum of  
1579 \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. A provider must add the  
1580 coalition as a named certificateholder and as an additional  
1581 insured. A provider must provide the coalition with a minimum of  
1582 10 calendar days' advance written notice of cancellation of or  
1583 changes to coverage. The general liability insurance required by  
1584 this paragraph must remain in full force and effect for the  
1585 entire period of the provider contract with the coalition.

1586 (m) For a provider that is an informal provider, comply  
1587 with the provisions of paragraph (l) or maintain homeowner's  
1588 liability insurance and, if applicable, a business rider. If an  
1589 informal provider chooses to maintain a homeowner's policy, the  
1590 provider must obtain and retain a homeowner's insurance policy  
1591 that provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence  
1592 and a minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. An

1593 informal provider must add the coalition as a named  
 1594 certificateholder and as an additional insured. An informal  
 1595 provider must provide the coalition with a minimum of 10  
 1596 calendar days' advance written notice of cancellation of or  
 1597 changes to coverage. The general liability insurance required by  
 1598 this paragraph must remain in full force and effect for the  
 1599 entire period of the provider's contract with the coalition.

1600 (n) Obtain and maintain any required workers' compensation  
 1601 insurance under chapter 440 and any required unemployment  
 1602 compensation insurance under chapter 443.

1603 (o) Notwithstanding paragraph (l), for a provider that is  
 1604 a state agency or a subdivision thereof, as defined in s.  
 1605 768.28(2), agree to notify the coalition of any additional  
 1606 liability coverage maintained by the provider in addition to  
 1607 that otherwise established under s. 768.28. The provider shall  
 1608 indemnify the coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28.

1609 (p) Execute the standard statewide provider contract  
 1610 adopted by the office.

1611 (q) Operate on a full-time and part-time basis and provide  
 1612 extended-day and extended-year services to the maximum extent  
 1613 possible without compromising the quality of the program to meet  
 1614 the needs of parents who work.

1615 (2) If a school readiness provider fails or refuses to  
 1616 comply with this part or any contractual obligation of the  
 1617 statewide provider contract under s. 1002.82(2) (m), the  
 1618 coalition may revoke the provider's eligibility to deliver the  
 1619 school readiness program or receive state or federal funds under  
 1620 this chapter for a period of 5 years.

1621        (3) The office and the coalitions may not:  
 1622            (a) Impose any requirement on a child care provider or  
 1623 early childhood education provider that does not deliver  
 1624 services under the school readiness program or receive state or  
 1625 federal funds under this part; or  
 1626            (b) Impose any requirement on a school readiness provider  
 1627 that exceeds the authority provided under this part or rules  
 1628 adopted pursuant to this part.  
 1629        1002.89 School readiness program; funding.—  
 1630            (1) Funding for the school readiness program shall be  
 1631 allocated among the early learning coalitions in accordance with  
 1632 this section and the General Appropriations Act.  
 1633            (2) The office shall administer school readiness funds and  
 1634 prepare and submit a unified budget request for the school  
 1635 readiness program in accordance with chapter 216.  
 1636            (3) All instructions to early learning coalitions for  
 1637 administering this section shall emanate from the office in  
 1638 accordance with the policies of the Legislature.  
 1639            (4) All cost savings and all revenues received through a  
 1640 mandatory sliding fee scale shall be used to increase the number  
 1641 of children served.  
 1642            (5) All state, federal, and local matching funds provided  
 1643 to an early learning coalition for purposes of this section  
 1644 shall be used for implementation of its approved school  
 1645 readiness plan, including the hiring of staff to effectively  
 1646 operate the coalition's school readiness program.  
 1647            (6) Costs shall be kept to the minimum necessary for the  
 1648 efficient and effective administration of the school readiness

1649 program with the highest priority of expenditure being direct  
 1650 services for eligible children. However, no more than 5 percent  
 1651 of the funds described in subsection (5) may be used for  
 1652 administrative costs and, except as otherwise specified in the  
 1653 General Appropriations Act, for the 2013-2014 fiscal year no  
 1654 more than 20 percent, and for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and  
 1655 thereafter no more than 18 percent, of the funds described in  
 1656 subsection (5) may be used for any combination of administrative  
 1657 costs, quality activities, and nondirect services as follows:

1658 (a) Administrative costs as described in 45 C.F.R. s.  
 1659 98.52, which shall include monitoring providers using the  
 1660 standard methodology adopted under s. 1002.82 to improve  
 1661 compliance with state and federal regulations and law pursuant  
 1662 to the requirements of the statewide provider contract adopted  
 1663 under s. 1002.82(2)(m).

1664 (b) Activities to improve the quality of child care as  
 1665 described in 45 C.F.R. s. 98.51, which shall be limited to the  
 1666 following:

1667 1. Developing, establishing, expanding, operating, and  
 1668 coordinating resource and referral programs specifically related  
 1669 to the provision of comprehensive consumer education to parents  
 1670 and the public regarding participation in the school readiness  
 1671 program and parental choice.

1672 2. Awarding grants to school readiness providers to assist  
 1673 them in meeting applicable state requirements for child care  
 1674 performance standards, implementing developmentally appropriate  
 1675 curricula and related classroom resources that support  
 1676 curricula, providing literacy supports, and providing

1677 professional development. Any grants awarded pursuant to this  
 1678 subparagraph shall comply with the requirements of ss. 215.971  
 1679 and 287.058.

1680 3. Providing training and technical assistance for school  
 1681 readiness providers, staff, and parents on child performance  
 1682 standards, child screenings, child assessments, developmentally  
 1683 appropriate curricula, character development, teacher-child  
 1684 interactions, age-appropriate discipline practices, health and  
 1685 safety, nutrition, first aid, the recognition of communicable  
 1686 diseases, and child abuse detection and prevention.

1687 4. Providing from among the funds provided for the  
 1688 activities described in subparagraphs 1.-3., adequate funding  
 1689 for infants and toddlers as necessary to meet federal  
 1690 requirements related to expenditures for quality activities for  
 1691 infant and toddler care.

1692 5. Improving the monitoring of compliance with, and  
 1693 enforcement of, applicable state and local requirements as  
 1694 described in and limited by 45 CFR s. 98.40.

1695 6. Responding to Warm-Line requests by providers and  
 1696 parents related to school readiness children, including  
 1697 providing developmental and health screenings to school  
 1698 readiness children.

1699 (c) Nondirect services as described in applicable Office  
 1700 of Management and Budget instructions are those services not  
 1701 defined as administrative, direct, or quality services that are  
 1702 required to administer the school readiness program. Such  
 1703 services include, but are not limited to:

- 1704 1. Assisting families to complete the required application
- 1705 and eligibility documentation.
- 1706 2. Determining child and family eligibility.
- 1707 3. Recruiting eligible child care providers.
- 1708 4. Processing and tracking attendance records.
- 1709 5. Developing and maintaining a statewide child care
- 1710 information system.

1711

1712 As used in this paragraph, the term "nondirect services" does

1713 not include payments to school readiness providers for direct

1714 services provided to children who are eligible under s. 1002.87,

1715 administrative costs as described in paragraph (a), or quality

1716 activities as described in paragraph (b).

1717 (7) Funds appropriated for the school readiness program

1718 may not be expended for the purchase or improvement of land, for

1719 the purchase, construction, or permanent improvement of any

1720 building or facility, or for the purchase of buses. However,

1721 funds may be expended for minor remodeling and upgrading child

1722 care facilities to ensure that providers meet state and local

1723 child care standards, including applicable health and safety

1724 requirements.

1725 (8) Beginning in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, all state-

1726 appropriated funding for the school readiness program shall be

1727 allocated to early learning coalitions based on the average

1728 prior year enrollment and the uniform waiting list as adopted by

1729 the Early Learning Programs Estimating Conference pursuant to s.

1730 216.136(8) and using the average market rate by program care

1731 level and provider type pursuant to s. 1002.895.

1732 1002.895 Market rate schedule.—The school readiness market  
 1733 rate schedule shall be implemented as follows:

1734 (1) The office shall establish procedures for the adoption  
 1735 of a market rate schedule. The schedule must include, at a  
 1736 minimum, county-by-county rates:

1737 (a) The market rate, including the minimum and the maximum  
 1738 rates for child care providers that hold a Gold Seal Quality  
 1739 Care designation under s. 402.281.

1740 (b) The market rate for child care providers that do not  
 1741 hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation.

1742 (2) The market rate schedule, at a minimum, must:

1743 (a) Differentiate rates by type, including, but not  
 1744 limited to, a child care provider that holds a Gold Seal Quality  
 1745 Care designation under s. 402.281, a child care facility  
 1746 licensed under s. 402.305, a public or nonpublic school exempt  
 1747 from licensure under s. 402.3025, a faith-based child care  
 1748 facility exempt from licensure under s. 402.316 that does not  
 1749 hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation, a large family child  
 1750 care home licensed under s. 402.3131, or a family day care home  
 1751 licensed or registered under s. 402.313.

1752 (b) Differentiate rates by the type of child care services  
 1753 provided for children with special needs or risk categories,  
 1754 infants, toddlers, preschool-age children, and school-age  
 1755 children.

1756 (c) Differentiate rates between full-time and part-time  
 1757 child care services.

1758 (d) Consider discounted rates for child care services for  
 1759 multiple children in a single family.

1760           (3) The market rate schedule must be based exclusively on  
 1761 the prices charged for child care services.

1762           (4) The market rate schedule shall be considered by an  
 1763 early learning coalition in the adoption of a payment schedule.  
 1764 The payment schedule must take into consideration the average  
 1765 market rate, include the projected number of children to be  
 1766 served, and be submitted for approval by the Division of Early  
 1767 Learning. Informal child care arrangements shall be reimbursed  
 1768 at not more than 50 percent of the rate adopted for a family day  
 1769 care home.

1770           (5) The office may contract with one or more qualified  
 1771 entities to administer this section and provide support and  
 1772 technical assistance for child care providers.

1773           (6) The office may adopt rules for establishing procedures  
 1774 for the collection of child care providers' market rate, the  
 1775 calculation of the average market rate by program care level and  
 1776 provider type in a predetermined geographic market, and the  
 1777 publication of the market rate schedule.

1778           1002.91 Investigations of fraud or overpayment;  
 1779 penalties.-

1780           (1) As used in this subsection, the term "fraud" means an  
 1781 intentional deception, omission, or misrepresentation made by a  
 1782 person with knowledge that the deception, omission, or  
 1783 misrepresentation may result in unauthorized benefit to that  
 1784 person or another person, or any aiding and abetting of the  
 1785 commission of such an act. The term includes any act that  
 1786 constitutes fraud under applicable federal or state law.

1787 (2) To recover state, federal, and local matching funds,  
 1788 the office shall investigate early learning coalitions,  
 1789 recipients, and providers of the school readiness program and  
 1790 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to determine  
 1791 possible fraud or overpayment. If by its own inquiries, or as a  
 1792 result of a complaint, the office has reason to believe that a  
 1793 person, coalition, or provider has engaged in, or is engaging  
 1794 in, a fraudulent act, it shall investigate and determine whether  
 1795 any overpayment has occurred due to the fraudulent act. During  
 1796 the investigation, the office may examine all records, including  
 1797 electronic benefits transfer records, and make inquiry of all  
 1798 persons who may have knowledge as to any irregularity incidental  
 1799 to the disbursement of public moneys or other items or benefits  
 1800 authorizations to recipients.

1801 (3) Based on the results of the investigation, the office  
 1802 may, in its discretion, refer the investigation to the  
 1803 Department of Financial Services for criminal investigation or  
 1804 refer the matter to the applicable coalition. Any suspected  
 1805 criminal violation identified by the office must be referred to  
 1806 the Department of Financial Services for criminal investigation.

1807 (4) An early learning coalition may suspend or terminate a  
 1808 provider from participation in the school readiness program or  
 1809 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program when it has  
 1810 reasonable cause to believe that the provider has committed  
 1811 fraud. The office shall adopt by rule appropriate due process  
 1812 procedures that the early learning coalition shall apply in  
 1813 suspending or terminating any provider, including the suspension  
 1814 or termination of payment. If suspended, the provider shall

1815 remain suspended until the completion of any investigation by  
 1816 the office, the Department of Financial Services, or any other  
 1817 state or federal agency, and any subsequent prosecution or other  
 1818 legal proceeding.

1819 (5) If a school readiness provider or a Voluntary  
 1820 Prekindergarten Education Program provider, or an owner,  
 1821 officer, or director thereof, is convicted of, found guilty of,  
 1822 or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of  
 1823 adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, or  
 1824 is acting as the beneficial owner for someone who has been  
 1825 convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo  
 1826 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance  
 1827 fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, the early learning coalition shall  
 1828 refrain from contracting with, or using the services of, that  
 1829 provider for a period of 5 years. In addition, the coalition  
 1830 shall refrain from contracting with, or using the services of,  
 1831 any provider that shares an officer or director with a provider  
 1832 that is convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo  
 1833 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance  
 1834 fraud pursuant to s. 414.39 for a period of 5 years.

1835 (6) If the investigation is not confidential or otherwise  
 1836 exempt from disclosure by law, the results of the investigation  
 1837 may be reported by the office to the appropriate legislative  
 1838 committees, the Department of Children and Families, and such  
 1839 other persons as the office deems appropriate.

1840 (7) The early learning coalition may not contract with a  
 1841 school readiness provider or a Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 1842 Education Program provider who is on the United States

1843 Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List. In  
 1844 addition, the coalition may not contract with any provider that  
 1845 shares an officer or director with a provider that is on the  
 1846 United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified  
 1847 List.

1848 (8) Each early learning coalition shall adopt an anti-  
 1849 fraud plan addressing the detection and prevention of  
 1850 overpayments, abuse, and fraud relating to the provision of and  
 1851 payment for school readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 1852 Education Program services and submit the plan to the office for  
 1853 approval. The office shall adopt rules establishing criteria for  
 1854 the anti-fraud plan, including appropriate due process  
 1855 provisions. The anti-fraud plan must include, at a minimum:

1856 (a) A written description or chart outlining the  
 1857 organizational structure of the plan's personnel who are  
 1858 responsible for the investigation and reporting of possible  
 1859 overpayment, abuse, or fraud.

1860 (b) A description of the plan's procedures for detecting  
 1861 and investigating possible acts of fraud, abuse, or overpayment.

1862 (c) A description of the plan's procedures for the  
 1863 mandatory reporting of possible overpayment, abuse, or fraud to  
 1864 the Office of Inspector General within the office.

1865 (d) A description of the plan's program and procedures for  
 1866 educating and training personnel on how to detect and prevent  
 1867 fraud, abuse, and overpayment.

1868 (e) A description of the plan's procedures, including the  
 1869 appropriate due process provisions adopted by the office for  
 1870 suspending or terminating from the school readiness program or

1871 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program a recipient or  
 1872 provider who the early learning coalition believes has committed  
 1873 fraud.

1874 (9) A person who commits an act of fraud as defined in  
 1875 this section is subject to the penalties provided in s.  
 1876 414.39(5) (a) and (b).

1877 1002.92 Child care and early childhood resource and  
 1878 referral.-

1879 (1) As a part of the school readiness program, the office  
 1880 shall establish a statewide child care resource and referral  
 1881 network that is unbiased and provides referrals to families for  
 1882 child care and information on available community resources.  
 1883 Preference shall be given to using early learning coalitions as  
 1884 the child care resource and referral agencies. If an early  
 1885 learning coalition cannot comply with the requirements to offer  
 1886 the resource information component or does not want to offer  
 1887 that service, the early learning coalition shall select the  
 1888 resource and referral agency for its county or multicounty  
 1889 region based upon the procurement requirements of s.  
 1890 1002.84(12).

1891 (2) At least one child care resource and referral agency  
 1892 must be established in each early learning coalition's county or  
 1893 multicounty region. The office shall adopt rules regarding  
 1894 accessibility of child care resource and referral services  
 1895 offered through child care resource and referral agencies in  
 1896 each county or multicounty region which include, at a minimum,  
 1897 required hours of operation, methods by which parents may  
 1898 request services, and child care resource and referral staff

1899 training requirements.

1900 (3) Child care resource and referral agencies shall

1901 provide the following services:

1902 (a) Identification of existing public and private child

1903 care and early childhood education services, including child

1904 care services by public and private employers, and the

1905 development of a resource file of those services through the

1906 single statewide information system developed by the office

1907 under s. 1002.82(2)(n). These services may include family day

1908 care, public and private child care programs, the Voluntary

1909 Prekindergarten Education Program, Head Start, the school

1910 readiness program, special education programs for

1911 prekindergarten children with disabilities, services for

1912 children with developmental disabilities, full-time and part-

1913 time programs, before-school and after-school programs, vacation

1914 care programs, parent education, the temporary cash assistance

1915 program, and related family support services. The resource file

1916 shall include, but not be limited to:

1917 1. Type of program.

1918 2. Hours of service.

1919 3. Ages of children served.

1920 4. Number of children served.

1921 5. Program information.

1922 6. Fees and eligibility for services.

1923 7. Availability of transportation.

1924 (b) Establishment of a referral process that responds to

1925 parental need for information and that is provided with full

1926 recognition of the confidentiality rights of parents. The

1927 resource and referral network shall make referrals to legally  
 1928 operating child care facilities. Referrals may not be made to a  
 1929 child care facility that is operating illegally.

1930 (c) Maintenance of ongoing documentation of requests for  
 1931 service tabulated through the internal referral process through  
 1932 the single statewide information system. The following  
 1933 documentation of requests for service shall be maintained by the  
 1934 child care resource and referral network:

1935 1. Number of calls and contacts to the child care resource  
 1936 information and referral network component by type of service  
 1937 requested.

1938 2. Ages of children for whom service was requested.

1939 3. Time category of child care requests for each child.

1940 4. Special time category, such as nights, weekends, and  
 1941 swing shift.

1942 5. Reason that the child care is needed.

1943 6. Name of the employer and primary focus of the business  
 1944 for an employer based child care program.

1945 (d) Provision of technical assistance to existing and  
 1946 potential providers of child care services. This assistance may  
 1947 include:

1948 1. Information on initiating new child care services,  
 1949 zoning, and program and budget development and assistance in  
 1950 finding such information from other sources.

1951 2. Information and resources which help existing child  
 1952 care services providers to maximize their ability to serve  
 1953 children and parents in their community.

1954 3. Information and incentives that may help existing or

1955 planned child care services offered by public or private  
 1956 employers seeking to maximize their ability to serve the  
 1957 children of their working parent employees in their community,  
 1958 through contractual or other funding arrangements with  
 1959 businesses.

1960 (e) Assistance to families and employers in applying for  
 1961 various sources of subsidy, including, but not limited to, the  
 1962 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, the school  
 1963 readiness program, Head Start, Project Independence, private  
 1964 scholarships, and the federal child and dependent care tax  
 1965 credit.

1966 (f) Assistance to families to negotiate discounts or other  
 1967 special arrangements with child care providers.

1968 (g) Assistance to families in identifying summer  
 1969 recreation camp and summer day camp programs to help families  
 1970 make informed choice. Contingent upon specific appropriation, a  
 1971 checklist of important health and safety qualities that parents  
 1972 can use to choose their summer camp programs shall be developed  
 1973 and distributed in a manner that will reach parents interested  
 1974 in such programs for their children.

1975 (h) Assistance to families for accessing local community  
 1976 resources.

1977 (4) A child care facility licensed under s. 402.305 and  
 1978 licensed and registered family day care homes must provide the  
 1979 statewide child care and resource and referral network with the  
 1980 following information annually:

1981 (a) Type of program.

1982 (b) Hours of service.

1983            (c) Ages of children served.

1984            (d) Fees and eligibility for services.

1985            1002.93 School readiness transportation services.—

1986            (1) The office may authorize an early learning coalition  
 1987 to establish school readiness transportation services for  
 1988 children at risk of abuse or neglect who are participating in  
 1989 the school readiness program, pursuant to chapter 427. The early  
 1990 learning coalitions may contract for the provision of  
 1991 transportation services as required by this section.

1992            (2) The transportation servicers may only provide  
 1993 transportation to each child participating in the school  
 1994 readiness program to the extent that such transportation is  
 1995 necessary to provide child care opportunities that otherwise  
 1996 would not be available to a child whose home is more than a  
 1997 reasonable walking distance from the nearest child care facility  
 1998 or family day care home.

1999            1002.94 Child Care Executive Partnership Act.—

2000            (1) This section may be cited as the "Child Care Executive  
 2001 Partnership Act."

2002            (2) There is created a body politic and corporate known as  
 2003 the Child Care Executive Partnership which shall establish and  
 2004 govern the Child Care Executive Partnership Program. The purpose  
 2005 of the Child Care Executive Partnership Program is to use state  
 2006 and federal funds as incentives for matching local funds derived  
 2007 from local governments, employers, charitable foundations, and  
 2008 other sources so that Florida communities may create local  
 2009 flexible partnerships with employers. The Child Care Executive  
 2010 Partnership Program funds shall be used at the discretion of

2011 local communities to meet the needs of working parents. A child  
 2012 care purchasing pool shall be developed with the state, federal,  
 2013 and local funds to provide subsidies to low-income working  
 2014 parents whose family income does not exceed the allowable income  
 2015 for any federally subsidized child care program with a dollar-  
 2016 for-dollar match from employers, local government, and other  
 2017 matching contributions. The funds used from the child care  
 2018 purchasing pool must be used to supplement or extend the use of  
 2019 existing public or private funds for slots.

2020 (3) The Child Care Executive Partnership, staffed by the  
 2021 office, shall consist of a representative of the Executive  
 2022 Office of the Governor and nine members of the corporate or  
 2023 child care community, appointed by the Governor.

2024 (a) Members shall serve for a period of 4 years, except  
 2025 that the representative of the Executive Office of the Governor  
 2026 shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

2027 (b) The Child Care Executive Partnership shall be chaired  
 2028 by a member chosen by a majority vote and shall meet at least  
 2029 quarterly and at other times upon the call of the chair. The  
 2030 Child Care Executive Partnership may use any method of  
 2031 telecommunications to conduct meetings, including establishing a  
 2032 quorum through telecommunications, only if the public is given  
 2033 proper notice of a telecommunications meeting and reasonable  
 2034 access to observe and, when appropriate, participate.

2035 (c) Members shall serve without compensation, but may be  
 2036 reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with  
 2037 s. 112.061.

2038 (d) The Child Care Executive Partnership shall have all

2039 the powers and authority, not explicitly prohibited by law,  
 2040 necessary to carry out and effectuate the purposes of this  
 2041 section, as well as the functions, duties, and responsibilities  
 2042 of the partnership, including, but not limited to, the  
 2043 following:

- 2044 1. Assisting in the formulation and coordination of the  
 2045 state's child care policy.
- 2046 2. Adopting an official seal.
- 2047 3. Soliciting, accepting, receiving, investing, and  
 2048 expending funds from public or private sources.
- 2049 4. Contracting with public or private entities as  
 2050 necessary.
- 2051 5. Approving an annual budget.
- 2052 6. Providing a report to the Governor, the Speaker of the  
 2053 House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate, on or  
 2054 before December 1 of each year.

2055  
 2056 Notwithstanding this subsection, the corporate body politic  
 2057 previously established by prior law is the corporate body  
 2058 politic for purposes of this section and shall continue in  
 2059 existence. All member terms of the existing corporate body  
 2060 politic expire as of June 30 and new members shall be appointed  
 2061 beginning July 1 in accordance with this subsection.

2062 (4) (a) The Legislature shall annually determine the amount  
 2063 of state or federal low-income child care moneys which shall be  
 2064 used to create Child Care Executive Partnership Program child  
 2065 care purchasing pools in counties chosen by the Child Care  
 2066 Executive Partnership provided that at least two of the counties

2067 have populations of no more than 300,000. The Legislature shall  
 2068 annually review the effectiveness of the child care purchasing  
 2069 pool program and reevaluate the percentage of additional state  
 2070 or federal funds, if any, which can be used for the program's  
 2071 expansion.

2072 (b) To ensure a seamless service delivery and ease of  
 2073 access for families, the office shall administer the child care  
 2074 purchasing pool funds.

2075 (c) The office, in conjunction with the Child Care  
 2076 Executive Partnership, shall develop procedures for disbursement  
 2077 of funds through the child care purchasing pools. In order to be  
 2078 considered for funding, an early learning coalition or the  
 2079 office must commit to:

2080 1. Matching the state purchasing pool funds on a dollar-  
 2081 for-dollar basis.

2082 2. Expending only those public funds that are matched by  
 2083 employers, local government, and other matching contributors who  
 2084 contribute to the purchasing pool. Parents shall also pay a fee,  
 2085 which may not be less than the amount identified in the early  
 2086 learning coalition's school readiness program sliding fee scale.

2087 (d) Each early learning coalition shall establish a  
 2088 community child care task force for each child care purchasing  
 2089 pool. The task force must be composed of employers, parents,  
 2090 private child care providers, and one representative from the  
 2091 local children's services council, if one exists in the area of  
 2092 the purchasing pool. The early learning coalition is expected to  
 2093 recruit the task force members from existing child care  
 2094 councils, commissions, or task forces already operating in the

2095 area of a purchasing pool. A majority of the task force shall  
 2096 consist of employers.

2097 (e) Each participating early learning coalition shall  
 2098 develop a plan for the use of child care purchasing pool funds.  
 2099 The plan must show how many children will be served by the  
 2100 purchasing pool, how many will be new to receiving child care  
 2101 services, and how the early learning coalition intends to  
 2102 attract new employers and their employees to the program.

2103 (5) The office may adopt any rules necessary for the  
 2104 implementation and administration of this section.

2105 1002.95 Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH)  
 2106 scholarship program.—

2107 (1) The office may contract for the administration of the  
 2108 Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) scholarship  
 2109 program, which provides educational scholarships to caregivers  
 2110 and administrators of early childhood programs, family day care  
 2111 homes, and large family child care homes. The goal of the  
 2112 program is to increase the education and training for  
 2113 caregivers, increase the compensation for child caregivers who  
 2114 complete the program requirements, and reduce the rate of  
 2115 participant turnover in the field of early childhood education.

2116 (2) The office shall adopt rules as necessary to  
 2117 administer this section.

2118 1002.96 Early Head Start collaboration grants.—

2119 (1) Contingent upon specific appropriation, the office  
 2120 shall establish a program to award collaboration grants to  
 2121 assist local agencies in securing Early Head Start programs  
 2122 through Early Head Start program federal grants. The

2123 collaboration grants shall provide the required matching funds  
 2124 for public and private nonprofit agencies that have been  
 2125 approved for Early Head Start program federal grants.

2126 (2) Public and private nonprofit agencies providing Early  
 2127 Head Start programs applying for collaborative grants must:

2128 (a) Meet the requirements in the Head Start program  
 2129 performance standards and other applicable rules and  
 2130 regulations.

2131 (b) Collaborate with other service providers at the local  
 2132 level.

2133 (c) Provide a comprehensive array of health, nutritional,  
 2134 and other services to the program's pregnant women and very  
 2135 young children, and their families.

2136 (3) The office may adopt rules as necessary for the award  
 2137 of collaboration grants to competing agencies and the  
 2138 administration of the collaboration grants program under this  
 2139 section.

2140 1002.97 Infants and toddlers in state-funded education and  
 2141 care programs; brain development activities.—Each state-funded  
 2142 education and care program for children from birth to 5 years of  
 2143 age must provide activities to foster brain development in  
 2144 infants and toddlers. A program must provide an environment that  
 2145 helps children attain the performance standards adopted by the  
 2146 office under s. 1002.82(2)(j) and must be rich in language and  
 2147 music and filled with objects of various colors, shapes,  
 2148 textures, and sizes to stimulate visual, tactile, auditory, and  
 2149 linguistic senses in the children and must include music and at  
 2150 least 30 minutes of reading to the children each day. A program

2151 may be offered through an existing early childhood program such  
 2152 as Healthy Start, the Title I program, the school readiness  
 2153 program, the Head Start program, or a private child care  
 2154 program. A program must provide information to families to make  
 2155 them aware of training for the infants' and toddlers' parents in  
 2156 their area. Family day care centers are encouraged, but not  
 2157 required, to comply with this section.

2158 1002.98 Records of children in the school readiness  
 2159 programs.—

2160 (1) The individual records of children enrolled in school  
 2161 readiness programs provided under this part, held by an early  
 2162 learning coalition or the office, are confidential and exempt  
 2163 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
 2164 Constitution. For purposes of this section, records include  
 2165 assessment data, health data, records of teacher observations,  
 2166 and personal identifying information.

2167 (2) A parent has the right to inspect and review the  
 2168 individual school readiness program record of his or her child  
 2169 and to obtain a copy of the record.

2170 (3) School readiness records may be released to:

2171 (a) The United States Secretary of Education, the United  
 2172 States Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the  
 2173 Comptroller General of the United States for the purpose of  
 2174 federal audits and investigations.

2175 (b) Individuals or organizations conducting studies for  
 2176 institutions to develop, validate, or administer assessments or  
 2177 improve instruction.

2178 (c) Accrediting organizations in order to carry out their

2179 accrediting functions.

2180 (d) Appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if  
 2181 the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of  
 2182 the child enrollee or other individuals.

2183 (e) The Office of Program Policy and Government  
 2184 Accountability and the Auditor General in connection with their  
 2185 official functions.

2186 (f) A court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with  
 2187 an order of that court in accordance with a lawfully issued  
 2188 subpoena.

2189 (g) Parties to an interagency agreement among early  
 2190 learning coalitions, local governmental agencies, providers of  
 2191 school readiness programs, state agencies, and the office for  
 2192 the purpose of implementing the school readiness program.

2193  
 2194 Agencies, organizations, or individuals that receive school  
 2195 readiness records in order to carry out their official functions  
 2196 must protect the data in a manner that does not permit the  
 2197 personal identification of a child enrolled in a school  
 2198 readiness program and his or her parent by persons other than  
 2199 those authorized to receive the records.

2200 Section 18. Paragraph (p) of subsection (3) of section  
 2201 11.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2202 11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

2203 (3) AUTHORITY FOR AUDITS AND OTHER ENGAGEMENTS.—The  
 2204 Auditor General may, pursuant to his or her own authority, or at  
 2205 the direction of the Legislative Auditing Committee, conduct  
 2206 audits or other engagements as determined appropriate by the

2207 Auditor General of:

2208 (p) The school readiness program system, including the  
 2209 early learning coalitions, created under s. 1002.83 ~~411.01~~.

2210 Section 19. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section  
 2211 20.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2212 20.15 Department of Education.—There is created a  
 2213 Department of Education.

2214 (3) DIVISIONS.—The following divisions of the Department  
 2215 of Education are established:

2216 ~~(h) The Office of Early Learning, which shall administer  
 2217 the school readiness system in accordance with s. 411.01 and the  
 2218 operational requirements of the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
 2219 Education Program in accordance with part V of chapter 1002. The  
 2220 office is a separate budget entity and is not subject to  
 2221 control, supervision, or direction by the Department of  
 2222 Education or the State Board of Education in any manner  
 2223 including, but not limited to, personnel, purchasing,  
 2224 transactions involving personal property, and budgetary matters.  
 2225 The office director shall be appointed by the Governor and  
 2226 confirmed by the Senate, shall serve at the pleasure of the  
 2227 Governor, and shall be the agency head of the office for all  
 2228 purposes. The office shall enter into a service agreement with  
 2229 the department for professional, technological, and  
 2230 administrative support services. The office shall be subject to  
 2231 review and oversight by the Chief Inspector General or his or  
 2232 her designee.~~

2233 Section 20. Section 196.198, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 2234 to read:

2235 | 196.198 Educational property exemption.—Educational  
 2236 | institutions within this state and their property used by them  
 2237 | or by any other exempt entity or educational institution  
 2238 | exclusively for educational purposes shall be exempt from  
 2239 | taxation. Sheltered workshops providing rehabilitation and  
 2240 | retraining of disabled individuals and exempted by a certificate  
 2241 | under s. (d) of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as  
 2242 | amended, are declared wholly educational in purpose and shall be  
 2243 | exempted from certification, accreditation, and membership  
 2244 | requirements set forth in s. 196.012. Those portions of property  
 2245 | of college fraternities and sororities certified by the  
 2246 | president of the college or university to the appropriate  
 2247 | property appraiser as being essential to the educational process  
 2248 | shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation. The use of property by  
 2249 | public fairs and expositions chartered by chapter 616 is  
 2250 | presumed to be an educational use of such property and shall be  
 2251 | exempt from ad valorem taxation to the extent of such use.  
 2252 | Property used exclusively for educational purposes shall be  
 2253 | deemed owned by an educational institution if the entity owning  
 2254 | 100 percent of the educational institution is owned by the  
 2255 | identical persons who own the property or if the entity owning  
 2256 | 100 percent of the educational institution and the entity owning  
 2257 | the property are owned by identical natural persons. Land,  
 2258 | buildings, and other improvements to real property used  
 2259 | exclusively for educational purposes shall be deemed owned by an  
 2260 | educational institution if the entity owning 100 percent of the  
 2261 | land is a nonprofit entity and the land is used, under a ground  
 2262 | lease or other contractual arrangement, by an educational

2263 institution that owns the buildings and other improvements to  
 2264 the real property, is a nonprofit entity under s. 501(c)(3) of  
 2265 the Internal Revenue Code, and provides education limited to  
 2266 students in prekindergarten through grade 8. If legal title to  
 2267 property is held by a governmental agency that leases the  
 2268 property to a lessee, the property shall be deemed to be owned  
 2269 by the governmental agency and used exclusively for educational  
 2270 purposes if the governmental agency continues to use such  
 2271 property exclusively for educational purposes pursuant to a  
 2272 sublease or other contractual agreement with that lessee. If the  
 2273 title to land is held by the trustee of an irrevocable inter  
 2274 vivos trust and if the trust grantor owns 100 percent of the  
 2275 entity that owns an educational institution that is using the  
 2276 land exclusively for educational purposes, the land is deemed to  
 2277 be property owned by the educational institution for purposes of  
 2278 this exemption. Property owned by an educational institution  
 2279 shall be deemed to be used for an educational purpose if the  
 2280 institution has taken affirmative steps to prepare the property  
 2281 for educational use. Affirmative steps means environmental or  
 2282 land use permitting activities, creation of architectural plans  
 2283 or schematic drawings, land clearing or site preparation,  
 2284 construction or renovation activities, or other similar  
 2285 activities that demonstrate commitment of the property to an  
 2286 educational use.

2287 Section 21. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section  
 2288 216.136, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2289 216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and  
 2290 principals.—

2291 (8) EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS ESTIMATING CONFERENCE.—  
 2292 (a) The Early Learning Programs Estimating Conference  
 2293 shall develop estimates and forecasts of the unduplicated count  
 2294 of children eligible for school readiness programs in accordance  
 2295 with the standards of eligibility established in s. 1002.87  
 2296 ~~411.01(6)~~, and of children eligible for the Voluntary  
 2297 Prekindergarten Education Program in accordance with s.  
 2298 1002.53(2), as the conference determines are needed to support  
 2299 the state planning, budgeting, and appropriations processes.  
 2300 Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection  
 2301 (3) of section 402.281, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
 2302 402.281 Gold Seal Quality Care program.—  
 2303 (1)  
 2304 (b) A child care facility, large family child care home,  
 2305 or family day care home that is accredited by an ~~a nationally~~  
 2306 ~~recognized~~ accrediting association approved by the department  
 2307 under subsection (3) and meets all other requirements shall,  
 2308 upon application to the department, receive a separate "Gold  
 2309 Seal Quality Care" designation.  
 2310 (3)(a) In order to be approved by the department for  
 2311 participation in the Gold Seal Quality Care program, an  
 2312 accrediting association must apply to the department and  
 2313 demonstrate that it:  
 2314 1. Is a ~~nationally~~ recognized accrediting association.  
 2315 2. Has accrediting standards that substantially meet or  
 2316 exceed the Gold Seal Quality Care standards adopted by the  
 2317 department under subsection (2).  
 2318 (b) In approving accrediting associations, the department

2319 shall consult with the Department of Education, the Florida Head  
 2320 Start Directors Association, the Florida Association of Child  
 2321 Care Management, the Florida Family Day Care Association, the  
 2322 Florida Children's Forum, the Florida Association for the  
 2323 Education of the Young ~~Early Childhood Association of Florida,~~  
 2324 the Child Development Education Alliance, the Florida  
 2325 Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools, the Association of  
 2326 Early Learning Coalitions, providers receiving exemptions under  
 2327 s. 402.316, and parents.

2328 Section 23. Subsection (9) of section 402.302, Florida  
 2329 Statutes, is amended to read:

2330 402.302 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

2331 (9) "Household children" means children who are related by  
 2332 blood, marriage, or legal adoption to, or who are the legal  
 2333 wards of, the family day care home operator, the large family  
 2334 child care home operator, or an adult household member who  
 2335 permanently or temporarily resides in the home. Supervision of  
 2336 the operator's household children shall be left to the  
 2337 discretion of the operator unless those children receive  
 2338 subsidized child care through the school readiness program  
 2339 pursuant to s. 1002.92 ~~411.0101~~ to be in the home.

2340 Section 24. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section  
 2341 402.305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2342 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

2343 (1) LICENSING STANDARDS.—The department shall establish  
 2344 licensing standards that each licensed child care facility must  
 2345 meet regardless of the origin or source of the fees used to  
 2346 operate the facility or the type of children served by the

2347 facility.

2348 (c) The minimum standards for child care facilities shall

2349 be adopted in the rules of the department and shall address the

2350 areas delineated in this section. The department, in adopting

2351 rules to establish minimum standards for child care facilities,

2352 shall recognize that different age groups of children may

2353 require different standards. The department may adopt different

2354 minimum standards for facilities that serve children in

2355 different age groups, including school-age children. The

2356 department shall also adopt by rule a definition for child care

2357 which distinguishes between child care programs that require

2358 child care licensure and after-school programs that do not

2359 require licensure. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to

2360 the contrary, minimum child care licensing standards shall be

2361 developed to provide for reasonable, affordable, and safe

2362 before-school and after-school care. After-school programs that

2363 otherwise meet the criteria for exclusion from licensure may

2364 provide snacks and meals through the federal Afterschool Meal

2365 Program (AMP) administered by the Department of Health in

2366 accordance with federal regulations and standards. The

2367 Department of Health shall consider meals to be provided through

2368 the AMP only if the program is actively participating in the

2369 AMP, is in good standing with the department, and the meals meet

2370 AMP requirements. Standards, at a minimum, shall allow for a

2371 credentialed director to supervise multiple before-school and

2372 after-school sites.

2373 Section 25. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsection

2374 (4) of section 445.023, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

2375 | 445.023 Program for dependent care for families with  
 2376 | children with special needs.—

2377 | (1) There is created the program for dependent care for  
 2378 | families with children with special needs. This program is  
 2379 | intended to provide assistance to families with children who  
 2380 | meet the following requirements:

2381 | (c) The family meets the income guidelines established  
 2382 | under s. 1002.87 ~~411.01(6)~~, notwithstanding any financial  
 2383 | eligibility criteria to the contrary in s. 414.075, s. 414.085,  
 2384 | or s. 414.095.

2385 | (4) In addition to school readiness services provided  
 2386 | under part VI of chapter 1002 ~~s. 411.01~~, dependent care may be  
 2387 | provided for children age 13 years and older who are in need of  
 2388 | care due to disability and where such care is needed for the  
 2389 | parent to accept or continue employment or otherwise participate  
 2390 | in work activities. The amount of subsidy shall be consistent  
 2391 | with the rates for special needs child care established by the  
 2392 | department. Dependent care needed for employment may be provided  
 2393 | as transitional services for up to 2 years after eligibility for  
 2394 | temporary cash assistance ends.

2395 | Section 26. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
 2396 | 490.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2397 | 490.014 Exemptions.—

2398 | (2) No person shall be required to be licensed or  
 2399 | provisionally licensed under this chapter who:

2400 | (a) Is a salaried employee of a government agency; a  
 2401 | developmental disability facility or program; a mental health,  
 2402 | alcohol, or drug abuse facility operating under chapter 393,

2403 chapter 394, or chapter 397; the statewide child care resource  
 2404 and referral network operating under s. 1002.92 ~~411.0101~~; a  
 2405 child-placing or child-caring agency licensed pursuant to  
 2406 chapter 409; a domestic violence center certified pursuant to  
 2407 chapter 39; an accredited academic institution; or a research  
 2408 institution, if such employee is performing duties for which he  
 2409 or she was trained and hired solely within the confines of such  
 2410 agency, facility, or institution, so long as the employee is not  
 2411 held out to the public as a psychologist pursuant to s.  
 2412 490.012(1) (a).

2413 Section 27. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
 2414 491.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2415 491.014 Exemptions.—

2416 (4) No person shall be required to be licensed,  
 2417 provisionally licensed, registered, or certified under this  
 2418 chapter who:

2419 (a) Is a salaried employee of a government agency; a  
 2420 developmental disability facility or program; a mental health,  
 2421 alcohol, or drug abuse facility operating under chapter 393,  
 2422 chapter 394, or chapter 397; the statewide child care resource  
 2423 and referral network operating under s. 1002.92 ~~411.0101~~; a  
 2424 child-placing or child-caring agency licensed pursuant to  
 2425 chapter 409; a domestic violence center certified pursuant to  
 2426 chapter 39; an accredited academic institution; or a research  
 2427 institution, if such employee is performing duties for which he  
 2428 or she was trained and hired solely within the confines of such  
 2429 agency, facility, or institution, so long as the employee is not  
 2430 held out to the public as a clinical social worker, mental

2431 health counselor, or marriage and family therapist.

2432 Section 28. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
2433 1001.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2434 1001.11 Commissioner of Education; other duties.—

2435 (1) The Commissioner of Education must independently  
2436 perform the following duties:

2437 (b) Serve as the primary source of information to the  
2438 Legislature, including the President of the Senate and the  
2439 Speaker of the House of Representatives, concerning the State  
2440 Board of Education, ~~and~~ the K-20 education system, and early  
2441 learning programs.

2442 Section 29. Sections 411.01, 411.0101, 411.01013,  
2443 411.01014, 411.01015, 411.0102, 411.0103, 411.0104, 411.0105,  
2444 411.0106, and 411.011, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

2445 Section 30. In addition to any other senior management and  
2446 select exempt positions authorized for the Office of Early  
2447 Learning, a senior management position for a general counsel and  
2448 a select exempt position for an inspector general are authorized  
2449 for the office.

2450 Section 31. By October 1, 2013, the Office of Early  
2451 Learning, in collaboration with the Commissioner of Education,  
2452 shall develop a reorganization plan for the office. The plan  
2453 shall include any changes made prior to July 1, 2013; personnel,  
2454 purchasing, and budgetary matters and their alignment with the  
2455 duties and responsibilities of the office; a report of all  
2456 outstanding contractual obligations; and recommendations for  
2457 statutory and budgetary changes. The report shall be provided to  
2458 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of

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2459 | the House of Representatives.

2460 | Section 32. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.